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## THE ARMY.

A DETACHMENT of the Eighth Cavalry has been ordered to Florida to assist the revenue officers to make collections.

COMPANY K, Second Cavalry, has been removed from North Platte, Neb., to O'Fallen's Station, Neb.; and Company M, Second Cavalry, from North Platte, Neb., to Plum Creek, Neb.

A MEETING of the officers of the Artillery Association of the Army of the Potomac was held at Fort Adams, Wednesday, September 6. After the routine business the Association elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, General W. F. Barry; Vice-President, General H. J. Hunt; Secretary, C. W. Wainwright. The Association adjourned to meet in Providence, R. I., the first Wednesday in March, 1872.

A DESPATCH from Louisville, Ky., September 11, reports that in Russell county, Ky., on the night of the 7th, Deputy United States Marshal Jackson and a party of soldiers made an attack on a Ku-Klux camp. A soldier named Crusoe was killed and Sergeant Strader wounded. A man named Caffrey was arrested as the murderer of Crusoe, and another named Jones arrested as a member of the same Ku-Klux gang. Both were carried to Louisville and placed in jail.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending September 11, 1871.

Tuesday, September 5.

PRIVATE Theodore Dresslar, Company A, Ninth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Drummer Elihu D. Pomeroy, General Service U. S. Army, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States by his post commander, provided there be no impediment, as desertion, etc., upon condition that the expenses incurred by his enlistment, fixed at \$62 92, be refunded to the United States. The money may be paid to the commanding officer of the post, who will give triplicate receipts therefor, one of which will be retained by him as authority for the discharge, one will be forwarded to this office, and one will be retained by the person by whom the money is paid. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under paragraph 1,371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

A board of examination having found Major Milton Cogswell, Twenty-first Infantry, "incapacitated for active service, and, in the judgment of the board, said incapacity results from long and faithful service," and "from sickness and exposure in the line of duty," the President directs that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or from sickness or exposure in the line of duty, in conformity with sections 16 and 17 of the act of August 3, 1861.

A board of examination having found Major Frederick E. Prime, Corps of Engineers, "incapacitated for active duty, and that said incapacity results from wounds and injuries received in the line of duty," the President directs that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or from wounds or injury received in the line of duty, in conformity with sections 16 and 17 of the act of August 3, 1861.

The resignation of Captain John W. Turner, commissary of subsistence, has been accepted by the President, to take effect September 4, 1871.

On recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Surgeon De Witt C. Peters is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, and will proceed to New York city, reporting by letter, upon his arrival, to the Surgeon-General.

The superintendent General Recruiting Service (Eastern Division) will prepare a detachment of seventy-five recruits from those which are or may from time to time become disposable at the depot, and forward it, under proper charge, to Fort Sully, Dakota Territory (via Sioux City, Iowa), where it will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer Twenty-second Infantry for assignment to his regiment. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Lieutenant-Colonel James Van Voast, Sixteenth Infantry (promoted from major Eighteenth Infantry), will proceed without delay to join his proper station.

Major William H. Brown, Eighteenth Infantry (promoted from captain Twenty-first Infantry), will proceed without delay to join his proper station in the Department of the South.

[No Special Orders were issued on Wednesday, September 6.]

Thursday, September 7.

Private James Brett, Company K, Twelfth Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army, will report by letter to the commanding general Department of California for assignment to duty.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Patrick Smith, formerly private of Company F, Fifth Infantry, with transportation from New York city to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Upon receipt of this order, Superintendent Enos P. Trussell (recently appointed) will repair to and assume charge of the National Cemetery at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

So much of Special Orders No. 302, of August 4, 1871, from this office, as orders Hospital Steward Charles Kotzenberg, U. S. Army, to report in person to the commanding general Department of Arizona, is hereby revoked, and he will report by letter to the commanding general Department of the Missouri for assignment to duty.

Colonel William F. Barry, Second Artillery, commanding Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Virginia, will proceed to Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, to examine the counterpoise gun-carriage there undergoing experiments, with a view to instruction at the Artillery School. On completion of this duty he will return to his proper station.

Leave of absence for three months on surgeon's certificate of disability is hereby granted Second Lieutenant William I. Reese, Sixth Cavalry.

Private Edward Fitzgerald, Mounted Service U. S. Army, now on duty at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby assigned to the Sixth Cavalry.

As soon as paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 344, September 2, 1871, from this office, has been complied with, the superintendent General Recruiting Service (Western Division) will prepare and forward, under proper charge, the following detachments of recruits: I. Two hundred to Omaha, Neb., where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Thirteenth Infantry. II. Fifty to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding general Department of the Missouri, for assignment to the Third Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Friday, September 8.

A board of examination having found Second Lieutenant Thomas W. Lord, Twentieth Infantry, "incapacitated for active service, said incapacity resulting from a gunshot wound received in the line of duty at the battle of Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863, while holding the rank of second lieutenant Company K, Seventeenth regiment Maine Volunteer Infantry, from which amputation of the left leg below the knee has resulted," and "that at the same battle he received a wound in the right foot from a piece of shell, causing the tendon of the great toe to adhere to the metatarsal bone, interfering with the motion of the toe," the President directs that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or from wounds or injury received in the line of duty, in conformity with sections 16 and 17 of the act of August 3, 1861.

Major Charles T. Larned, paymaster, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and will report in person without unnecessary delay to the Paymaster-General, Washington, D. C., for duty in his office. He will turn over to Major Rodney Smith, paymaster, all funds, instructions, etc., pertaining to the office of chief paymaster Department of Dakota.

Until otherwise ordered, Major Rodney Smith, paymaster, will assume the duties of chief paymaster Department of Dakota.

Post Chaplain Aquila A. Reese is hereby relieved from duty at Fort Sanders, W. T., and will report without delay to the commanding officer Department of Texas, San Antonio, Texas, for assignment.

To complete his record, Chaplain J. F. Treacy, Fourth Cavalry, is hereby honorably discharged the service upon tender of resignation, to date August 2, 1866.

As soon as paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 348, September 5, 1871, and instructions by letter of the 7th instant, from this office, have been complied with, the superintendent General Recruiting Service (Eastern Division) will prepare and forward, under proper charge, the following detachments of recruits: Twenty to Ruthersfordton, N. C., for assignment to Battery A, Fourth Artillery; twenty-six to Fort Johnston, N. C., for assignment to Battery G, Fourth Artillery; nineteen to Raleigh, N. C., for assignment to Battery H, Fourth Artillery. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Leave of absence for six months, with permission to visit Canada, to take effect when his services can be spared by the department commander, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant F. A. Boutelle, First Cavalry.

Saturday, September 9.

Second Lieutenant Guilford D. Jennings, Third Artillery, will repair to this city and report in person to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders.

Private John Jackson, Company A, Fifteenth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States by his post commander, upon condition that the expenses incurred by his enlistment, fixed at \$65 69, be refunded to the United States. The money may be paid to the commanding officer of the post, who will give triplicate receipts therefor, one of which will be retained by him as authority for the discharge, one will be forwarded to this office, and one will be retained by the person by whom the money is paid.

The following-named enlisted men will be discharged

the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the places where they may be serving: Private Henry Bowles, Company H, Eighth Infantry; First-class Private John O'Brien, Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army, now at Watervliet Arsenal, New York; Private Edward Unwin, Company F, Twenty-third Infantry.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Edwin Henry, formerly private of Light Battery A, Second Artillery, with transportation from New York city to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Monday, September 11.

First Lieutenant James W. Reilly, Ordnance Department, will report in person without delay to the Superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., for assignment to duty.

First-class Private Henry Smith, Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army, now at Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

The resignation of Captain George W. Ballantine, Seventh Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect May 15, 1871.

Leave of absence for sixty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant James Joyes, Seventeenth Infantry.

The resignation of First Lieutenant James Joyes, Seventeenth Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect October 31, 1871.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 101, of August 5, 1871, from headquarters Department of the East, directing that second-class Private Daniel D. Fagan, Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army, Washington Arsenal, District of Columbia, "be confined at hard labor under charge of the guard at Washington Arsenal for the period of six months," is hereby remitted. He will be released from confinement and dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for ten days was granted Captain Thomas M. Tolman, First Infantry, September 8.

HOSPITAL Steward Charles Wilson, U. S. Army, was ordered September 5 to Fort Totten, Dakota Territory.

ASSISTANT Surgeon C. K. Winne, U. S. Army, was ordered September 6 to Fort Shaw, Montana Territory, for duty.

PARAGRAPH 3, Special Orders No. 180, current series, from the headquarters Department of Dakota, is hereby so amended as to read, Sergeant J. J. Jordan.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon Bernard Gesse n, U. S. Army, was relieved September 5 from duty at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, and ordered to Fort Sill, Indian Territory.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Major G. W. Candee, paymaster U. S. Army, by orders from the headquarters Department of Dakota, to take effect from the 21st of September.

CAPTAIN Henry W. Jones, assistant quartermaster, in addition to his present duties, is assigned to perform the duties of chief quartermaster of the Department of the Columbia, during the temporary absence of Major Saxton.

THE leave of absence granted Captain G. B. Dandy, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, from headquarters Fort Abercrombie, Dakota Territory, was extended twenty-three days, by orders from headquarters Department of Dakota, September 6.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Nelson H. Davis, assistant inspector-general U. S. Army, has been ordered on temporary service to New Mexico, via Denver, C. T., for the purpose of carrying out the instructions from the headquarters Department of the Missouri of the 4th instant.

PAYMASTER H. C. Pratt, U. S. Army, chief paymaster of the Department of the Lakes, was ordered September 7 to proceed to and pay the troops at the following-named posts: Fort Gratiot, Michigan; Fort Mackinac, Michigan; Fort Brady, Michigan.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon R. H. McKay, U. S. Army, having reported at the headquarters Department of the Missouri, was ordered September 6 to proceed without delay to Fort Scott, Kansas, reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer for assignment to duty.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Acting Assistant Surgeon H. G. Tidemann, U. S. Army, in orders from the headquarters Department of the Missouri, September 7. Hospital Steward Charles Goettinger, U. S. Army, was relieved from duty at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and ordered to Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation; and Hospital Steward Charles A. Sprague, U. S. Army, relieved from duty at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, and ordered to Fort Sill, Indian Territory.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Porter, New York, September 8. Detail for the court: Captain R. E. Johnston, First Infantry; Assistant Surgeon J. E. Semple, U. S. Army; Captain W. N. Tisdall, First Infantry; First Lieutenant F. M. Lynde, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant R. G. Armstrong, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant Douglas M. Scott



First Infantry. First Lieutenant F. E. Pierce, First Infantry, judge-advocate.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Second Lieutenant C. L. Best, Jr., First Artillery, Sept. 8.

### A DISHONEST PAYMASTER.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Sept. 13, 1871.

THERE was intense excitement occasioned here to-day by the report, which subsequently appeared to be correct, that Colonel Hodge paymaster of the Regular Army, was guilty of defalcation to the Government, extending back to 1864, amounting to a half million of dollars. Stock speculations, gold gambling, and real estate transactions, in which he had been unfortunate, are given as the leading causes of the disaster. Colonel Hodge was last night conveyed under strict guard, by order of General Sherman, to Fort McHenry, Baltimore, where he will be held until a court-martial can be organized for his trial. As soon as the defalcation was discovered the Secretary of War was informed by telegraph, and he will arrive to-morrow. On Sunday General Brice, Paymaster-General, received from Colonel Hodge a confession of his crime, with a statement that he had lost the amount during the last few years in stock speculations. The defaulter has been a favorite with Government officers in this city, where he has always been regarded as above suspicion, and he has always had what is called the "cream" of the service. He has been retained in this city for several years, never having been subjected to the trials and embarrassments of field service, and has always had the easiest and least responsible service in the Paymaster's Department.

There is considerable discussion over the responsibility of the defalcation, the Treasury Department claiming that the Pay Department is at fault, while the Paymaster's Bureau declare that the Treasury Department ought to have discovered the irregularity in Hodge's accounts months and years ago. The great loss of the Government in this case is likely to occasion reforms which ought long since to have been made, as a means of protection against defaulters. Colonel Hodge in his letter to General Brice admits a systematic descript, running back several years to cover up false and fraudulent returns, dishonest statements, and inaccurate accounts. His disbursements for six years past amount to \$20,391,450. For the payment of Treasury certificates for bounty alone, the amounts ranged from \$400,000 to \$500,000 per month.

The accounts and statements rendered by paymasters to the Paymaster-General's office do not prove their own accuracy as to the real amount of their deposit balances. That can only be arrived at by a comparison of statements with their respective deposit accounts in the various United States depositories, and without direct information from the United States depository, the Paymaster-General can have no means of knowing the accuracy of a paymaster's certified balance in that depository. The Secretary of War in 1866, after conferring with the Secretary of the Treasury, instructed the Paymaster-General to forward to the Treasurer of the United States direct, at the end of each week, a statement of his balance on hand, and where deposited, as all depositories in the country are required to make weekly statements of deposits on hand, with a list of deposits of disbursing officers, and credits to each. A comparison of each weekly statement would show any discrepancy between the depository and paymaster. If any such were found, it was the duty of the Treasury Department to inform the Paymaster-General of the fact; so, too, if the paymaster neglected to forward his weekly statement at all, the Paymaster-General could only know that fact by notice from the Treasury. The following circular was issued by the Paymaster-General, in accordance with an agreement with the United States Treasurer, to all paymasters, and it has been in force ever since:

PAYMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
WASHINGTON, May 9, 1866. }

CIRCULAR NO. 43.—Each paymaster will, at the close of each week, report to the Treasurer of the United States direct the deposit balance of public money to his credit, designating the place of such deposit. A duplicate will be sent to this office in every case. Instruct your officers that this must not be neglected, no matter whether the paymaster be at his office or elsewhere.

B. W. BRICE, Paymaster-General.

So far as it relates to the Paymaster-General's office, a strict compliance has been enforced, and the Treasury Department has never informed the Paymaster-General of any failure of compliance on the part of any paymaster. Colonel Hodge's weekly statements, in compliance with the circular, have been systematically false. Reporting continually a deposit balance in the Treasury largely in excess of his real balance, by forged entries he made them correspond with the periodical accounts. It is to be wondered that the Second Auditor of the Treasury, who is the proper accounting officer of this class of accounts, should fail to call the attention of the Treasury Department to these glaring frauds, because they surely could not have escaped his notice. This fact may account for the failure of the Treasury Department to give the necessary information to the Paymaster-General. The account current of the paymaster, and the certificate of the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer, should have been regularly received at the Second Auditor's office, and there examined and verified. In all probability the case will finally be traced to the carelessness of this officer. The Paymaster-General states that if the duty was performed of examining and comparing statements, or if Hodge failed to render them, he is not so advised. He further declares that no information from the Treasury Department that any examination had been made to show that Hodge was guilty of any false statement of his money balance, or of any neglect in not rendering his weekly statements, was ever received. He appears to have pursued his course unchecked by the accounting officers of the

Treasury Department. It appears that the money used for outside purchases of stock and gold gambling has been drawn in cash from the Treasury in large sums. Here again was a failure in the Treasury to enforce the requirements of law and regulations. Hodge's disbursements required not a dollar in cash. All should have been made by checks. Hodge, in his letter of confession, refers to two persons in this city, and one in New York, through whose agency he made these speculations, namely, Middleton & Co. and Lewis Johnson & Co. of Washington, and Polhamus and Jackson & Co. in New York. The Washington houses, he also states, had no knowledge of any criminality on his part, but the New York firm was not so innocent.

### WEST POINT—REPORT OF BOARD OF VISITORS.

THE following are the recommendations of this board. Press of matter compels us to leave out some of the observations upon examinations, etc., which are not different from the yearly judgment of the Visitors:

EXAMINATIONS.—The candidates for admission to the Academy were first examined. This being a change from the previous practice, the board were invited to witness the ordeal. Proficiency in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, arithmetic, geography, and the history of our country is required to qualify for admission. The result showed that out of ninety examined, ten were rejected for physical disability, and twenty-two for defectiveness of scholarship.

Each cadet is examined upon two topics, one by illustrations upon the blackboard, the other by questions from the professor. In the case of the three lower classes, the interest is divided between two simultaneous examinations before respective subdivisions of the academy board. This requires either a corresponding division of the Board of Visitors, or an alternation between the two centres of attraction which is not wholly satisfactory. In the opinion of the board, the examination should be conducted in the presence of the whole military and academic staff and of the assembled spectators. The requisite additional time might well be occupied, in view of the obvious advantage.

THE CHAPLAINCY.—In connection with the chapel service, the board urgently recommend that henceforth the office of chaplain be made distinct; that the term of incumbency be limited to four years; and, as far as practicable, that the religious denominations be represented in rotation, in order that the principle so wisely adopted by the founders of the republic, and working so prosperously throughout the country, may be practically recognized at this post—that is to say, no monopoly of political patronage; no ecclesiastical establishment; no union of church and state.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.—The board have carefully considered the entire course of studies pursued at the Academy, both as to the methods of instruction, the nature of the branches pursued, and the time respectively given to each.

With regard to the methods of teaching in all the departments, they are able to express an almost unqualified approbation. The processes of imparting a knowledge of the subjects under discussion seem skillfully chosen to reach the highest intelligence and culture, not so much by crowding the mind with the mere material of learning, as by training it to clear and consecutive thinking, or, in other words, teaching the art of study.

But in reference to the subjects pursued and the relative time devoted, the board respectfully suggest that an important change is imperatively demanded. In fact, considering the advanced conditions of science and civilization at the present day, it is, in the opinion of the board, absolutely indispensable to the future greater efficiency of the institution.

The four years of the academic course, as found by universal experience, constitute the maximum of time proper to be spent in the acquisition of a fundamental education, whether in the science of arms or in the liberal professions of civil life. Those studies which are essential to a military training, with those which are more closely akin to them, especially in view of the great expansion and minute accuracy of modern investigation, must of necessity consume the whole period of the academic curriculum. It has consequently been found that a number of most important branches, particularly those of elocution, English literature, belles-lettres, and ethics, have been thrust aside simply for want of time.

Furthermore, in view of the increasing intimacy of our country with Spanish-speaking populations, the board have been impressed with the conviction that the necessity of a knowledge of this language is not sufficiently understood. When it is remembered that the Spanish is spoken by forty-five millions of people, more than half of whom compose nations in our own hemisphere, and are annually coming into closer connection with us; when it is apparent that every year is extending and complicating our commercial and civil relations; when we consider the influence of future diplomatic intercourse, and even the possibility of military operations, we can scarcely overestimate the value of this study to the young men of the Academy. While, therefore, the board would gladly urge attention to other modern languages, as the French and German, so far as may be practicable, they deem it indispensable that the Spanish should be not only retained but even made more prominent.

PREPARATORY COURSE.—In the judgment of the board, strong reasons exist for the change they would propose. In the first place, candidates should have every possible advantage for admission to the institution; and while the examinations are fairly conducted, the terms are already as low as can well consist with the higher attainments of the subsequent course, and at the same time with the general preparations of young men for such admission. In the second place, it is to be deeply regretted that no provision has yet been made for the proficiency of the cadet in those studies which are now wholly excluded, and without a knowledge of which no man can be said to be thoroughly educated and fitted for the wider and more solemn duties of after life.

The board, therefore, earnestly recommend that a preparatory course of at least one year should be established, and, in view of the number of annual rejections, that the minimum age of admission to the Academy be fixed at eighteen years; that the method and standard of admission to the preparatory course be the same as it now is for the Academy; that at the end of this course an examination in the studies of the preparatory year be held, and that no person who cannot pass the test of such examination shall be admitted to the Academy, though he may not be required to pursue the prescribed studies with the preparatory class. And in pursuance of this end, the board likewise further recommend that a professorship of ethics and belles-lettres be established, the incumbent to be selected from civil life, and that the entire course of study be adjusted in accordance with the change proposed.

THE ACADEMIC BOARD.—The Board of Visitors for 1871 bear witness that in meeting the superintendent and members of the military and academic staffs, they were brought into contact with gentlemen who are eminent each in his respective department. The only shadow of this reflection is that none, however useful or conspicuous, can avert the approach of inevitable change. A day must come when it is best that men should retire from the station which they have both dignified and adorned. It is the conviction of the board that such period has arrived in the case of the professor of ethics and law, of the professor of engineering, and of the professor of drawing; and that the Government should afford ample provision for that comfort in their retirement to which they are entitled by so long a life of active and distinguished public service. And the board would further recommend that the professorship of drawing be abolished, and that hereafter this study be included in the department of engineering, and at the same time restricted to mathematical and topographical drawing.

THE LIBRARY.—A collection of some 24,000 volumes constitutes the library of the Academy. The room is spacious and finely located for the purpose. The books are in good condition, and, considering the general design as rather for miscellaneous reference than for erudite and scholastic reading, they seem to be well selected, and the utility of the collection might be augmented by such annual increase as a liberal appropriation would afford.

THE APPARATUS AND OBSERVATORY.—The board were gratified to find ample provision of philosophical and chemical apparatus, and, at the same time, surprised that no suitable rooms have been provided for practical processes and experiments. On the other hand, while they were constrained to admire the splendid fixtures and mechanism of the observatory, they regret to see in the mounted telescope the inferiority of forty years ago, and they would respectfully suggest whether it is not expedient to supersede an instrument which is not equal to the present requirements, not worthy of the institution to which it belongs, and not creditable to the American people, whose pride it should be to make everything about this national school conform to the most advanced stages of science and discovery.

INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS.—[The board recommend the enlargement of the chapel; the erection of suitable buildings for the philosophical and chemical apparatus, military relics, trophies, models, etc.; new and larger workshops; repair of gas works and coal shed.]

STATE OF THE GROUNDS.—With the exception of those portions which form the sites of the workshops, the grounds, including the plain, the encampment, the cemetery, the garden, together with the forts, the walks, the roads, the wharfs, and the water-courses, are in prime condition. The principal thing now required is a system of sewerage and drainage, which has never yet been adequately provided, and which, from the natural conformation of the place and the injury of heavy storms, is very greatly needed. It would prove the only effectual remedy against the large contingent expense for repairs or damage which now annually accrues.

FISCAL AFFAIRS.—The board have, by their committee, examined the books and accounts of the post, and found an exact and competent system of checks and balances, showing in every minute detail that the fiscal affairs of the institution are conducted with rigid economy and scrupulous honesty. The vouchers and evidences of all moneys received and expended are so exhibited as to afford full satisfaction. Statements of the accounts of all appropriations and expenditures, as furnished the board by the proper accounting officers, are herewith submitted.

POLICE.—The board find the police regulations efficient and admirable, extending as they do to all the duties and responsibilities of military life, and to all parts of the grounds, walks, cemetery, garden, academic buildings, officers' houses, barracks, mess-hall, laundry, riding-hall, stables, and outbuildings. They impose at all times the strictest regimen. To the natural beauty and grandeur of the place are thus added the finishing attractions. The whole aspect and activity of the post, the neatness, order, and punctuality which mark the disposition of every article and the movements of every hour, attest, in the most striking manner, the completeness of a vigilance which stamps its impress on every hand. To this wise forecast, aided by the salubrity of nature and the protecting kindness of Providence, is due the sanitary condition of the post; the general health which prevails throughout the entire academic course.

ADMINISTRATION.—The superintendent is charged with the administration of every department of duty and responsibility at the post, but he has generally been well sustained by his subordinates. The board are pleased to note the evidences of a wise and competent supervision of all that concerns the welfare of this community. Having some eight hundred souls directly or remotely connected with his military family, the superintendent has not only maintained a school for more than eighty children, but he has directed the various labors of the adults in every branch of industry, and caused to be kept an account of every dollar appropriated and expended; a record of every particular of the profit and loss of the institution. To his judgment and



diligence very much is due for the charming appearance of the place, and the remarkable order in which everything is conducted. Alike in the greatest and the smallest matters, whether sanitary, economic, or educational, there seems to have been a spirit of fidelity and painstaking which cannot be too highly praised. Nothing appears to have been neglected which the means placed in his hands enabled him to supply.

In view, therefore, of the arduous and complicated labors of his position, the board freely accord their tribute of approbation to an officer who, having for several years sustained the burdens of his administration with so much fidelity and success, is about to be transferred to another post.

**DISCIPLINE.**—In regard to the discipline of the corps of cadets, the board have made such investigation and examination as circumstances have allowed, and have sought to compare its present with its former state. And while the board are compelled to express the opinion that the discipline now existing is not as strict as formerly, they feel that it would be unjust to charge upon the officers now in command at the Academy a result which has been produced by many extraneous causes, and has been the growth of many years.

Twenty-five years ago West Point was substantially separate from the outside world; for several months of the year a mail was not received oftener than once in three or four days. The presence of visitors was almost wholly unknown, and the officers and cadets formed a community by and of themselves. The relations existing between the officers and cadets was like that at present existing between the officers and soldiers at a military post. Cadets were permitted to visit at the quarters of professors and officers on Saturday afternoons, and at no other time. But so reserved were the manners of officers, even on such occasions, that the privilege, though recognized, was very rarely exercised. There was substantially no social intercourse between the officers and the cadets.

In those days, too, the rigor of discipline put all cadets, the sons of the rich and the sons of the poor, upon a common footing. The regulations not only prohibited any cadet from receiving money from his parents and friends, but no place existed, or was permitted to exist, on the limits, where cadets could expend money. Occasionally a cadet was allowed to purchase what he pleased under the head of "sundries," not exceeding one dollar in amount, and that only on the order of an officer in charge.

But all this has changed. West Point is now or fast becoming a place of fashionable resort. Hotels have been erected in near proximity to the post, and hundreds of visitors now repair thither where one did in former years. This influx of fashionable life has caused a relaxation of the rules in regard to cadets visiting. The great distance between officers and cadets has been gradually diminished. Cadets of the first class may now visit officers every day in the week, and officers and cadets associate together with a freedom of intercourse not formerly known. Insensibly the standard of discipline has been lowered, until the Academy has less than formerly the character of the Regular Army, and more the features of a militia establishment where officers and men are separated while on duty, but mingle in social intercourse when the hour of drill or parade has passed.

Although the regulation in regard to cadets receiving money remains unchanged, yet at present a new functionary, known as the "cadet confectioner," is allowed to keep open on cadet limits a place of resort which cadets are known to frequent daily to enjoy the table, and where they may treat their fellows without stint or limit. Thus one of the elements of equality which formerly existed among the cadets is destroyed, and the son of a wealthy man may fare sumptuously, while the poor boy must confine himself to such food as the mess-hall affords.

Many other causes might be mentioned as contributing to the present condition of things, and many other illustrations of the change from the custom of former years might be given. But those members of the board who have been appointed by the Vice-President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and whose duty it is by law specially made to report to Congress upon this subject, will doubtless do so at length, and therefore this board pass the subject without as full a consideration as would otherwise be demanded. But this board, feeling the importance of a high state of discipline to the efficiency of the Academy, to accomplish the purpose for which it is maintained, earnestly recommend a return to the stricter kind of discipline which was administered years ago. An army must be governed by different methods and upon different principles from a civil society, and to an army and to every military establishment discipline is a necessity.

With a view to this end, in the opinion of this board, the superintendent and commandant of cadets should always be officers of high rank, who, by their age and military distinction, can command not only the respect but the implicit obedience of the cadets.

**RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The board are not insensible to the delicacy of making recommendations which involve considerable drafts upon the treasury of the country at a time when an enormous debt weighs it down, and the strictest economy should be the public policy. Yet, without doubt, it is the duty of Congress to make liberal provisions for this post, so long as the institution is maintained as the sole national military school. The board of the present year have endeavored to point out the most pressing necessities, and call to them the attention of the Government.

They would respectfully suggest that the amount which last year relapsed to the treasury may be reapportioned, with such other sums as may be necessary to these important objects.

The board also respectfully suggest that the loss of clothing and other articles of the cadets by the fire which occurred during the last winter, and which some of them can ill afford to bear, should be reimbursed by the generosity of the Government, inasmuch as the evidence in each case is clear and definite, and there are

satisfactory vouchers for the full amount of loss sustained by each cadet.

A. G. EDWARDS, of Missouri.

J. NEELY JOHNSON, of Nevada.

J. J. WOODS, of Kansas.

MATT. H. CARPENTER, of Wisconsin.

With the exception of the article on discipline.

B. SUNDERLAND, of Washington, D. C.,

President of the Board.

WM. MILLER, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

With the exception of the article on discipline, and also the article on the retirement of professors.

WILLIAM AIKEN, of South Carolina.

TUESDAY was marked by a peaceful victory, if not to American prowess, at least to American strength and endurance. Four of the Ward brothers, of Cornwall on the Hudson on that day won a four-mile boat race over five competitors, including the Taylor-Winship and Renforth crews of England, the Coulter-Biglin, Pittsburgh, and Dutchess county crews of America. The success of an American crew in an encounter with such famous opponents as those from England has naturally added very greatly to the estimation in which the Wards were held, and a proposal being made to raise a fund for them, the matter received immediate approval, and \$650 were subscribed. We hope this testimonial will be successfully completed. For years the Ward family have occupied the position of the American champions. Mr. Ward, the father, had a large number—ten, we think—of sons. The eldest was the first boatman, and as the others grew up they one after another, with few exceptions, took their places in the shell, all proving staunch men and excellent scullers. Though rarely backed by outsiders, and engaged in daily occupations of various kinds which prevented the constant training professional crews are paid to keep up, they have seldom refused a challenge. They are perhaps the only, or at least the most thoroughly, American crew in the country; and when they have rowed against foreigners, their broad shoulders, spare forms, and broad rather than deep chests have clearly marked the difference of race between them and their adversaries. We have heard that a few weeks before this last victory they bitterly complained of the lack of public interest which left them not only to bear all their expenses, but to put up their own money upon the race. A stake of \$2,000, \$400 for a new boat, and the loss of some weeks' earnings certainly make a pretty serious total for four watermen to carry. Still this burden may have had its compensations. It is said that the best productions in the literary world are those which are brought forth under the pressure of necessity; and perhaps the Wards may owe some of their good fortune to the fact that their interest in the race far exceeded that of any of their adversaries. Be that as it may, these veteran and public-spirited oarsmen deserve a recognition of their prowess and position as American boating champions, and the members of our boat and yacht clubs can well afford to give it.

At a meeting of the Board of Management of the Army and Navy Club, held on Tuesday evening, September 5, 1871, it was resolved, "That the House Committee be authorized to make the necessary arrangement for a social gathering of the members of the Club on Saturday evenings of such months in the year as may be deemed advisable by said Committee, and to have prepared a luncheon on such occasions, and that members of the Club be permitted to invite such persons as are eligible for membership to be present on those evenings." The first meeting in accordance with this resolution will be held on Saturday evening, September 16, and meetings will be held on each Saturday evening during the coming winter.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

### VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE store-ship *Relief* arrived at Washington from New York September 7.

THE U. S. frigate *Brooklyn* (20), of the European Fleet, Captain John Guest, commanding, arrived at Plymouth, England, September 7.

THE King of the Belgians has sent a letter of thanks to the crew of the United States steamer *Juniata* for saving the lives of the crew of a boat that capsized in the Scheldt.

THE late Commodore Josiah Tatnall's eldest daughter, Miss Charlotte Tatnall, died in Portland, Me., on the 8th inst., while on her way from Halifax to visit friends in New Hampshire. She has been an invalid for some time.

THE *Severn* (15), flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron, flying the flag of Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee, arrived at Hampton Roads on the morning of September 7, and sailed at 9 A. M. for the Norfolk Navy-yard. Admiral Lee arrived in Washington September 8.

THE U. S. frigates *Constitution* (6) and *Saratoga* (8), having on board the midshipmen of the Naval Academy, returned from their summer cruise and anchored eight miles below Fort Monroe, September 9. They will lay there four or five days and then proceed to Annapolis.

THE U. S. steamer *Richmond* arrived at Gibraltar on her way to New York on the 21st of August, but while taking in coal she received orders from the Admiral to return to Spezia, Italy, without delay, in order that some of the officers may compose a court of inquiry on the grounding of the *Guerriere* near Leghorn. The *Franklin* and the *Plymouth* passed through the Straits of Gibraltar a few days ago, bound to Spezia on the same mission, and the *Shenandoah* and *Saco* will follow.

ADVISES from Hayti to September 1 say an English

merchant vessel having been blockaded at Port-au-Prince by a Spanish man-of-war, the British Consul General has demanded explanations from the Haytian Government, and damages in \$5,000 for the detention of the ship. The Spanish Government is involved.

THE United States sloop-of-war *Portsmouth* (15) was to leave Montevideo about the 10th of August for the United States via Rio Janeiro, as she has been ordered home after nearly three years' cruise. The United States steam sloop *Ticonderoga* has sailed from Boston to relieve the *Portsmouth* in the South Atlantic squadron. Lieutenant-Commander J. N. Quackenbush arrived at Montevideo on the 28th of July to take command of the gunboat *Wasp* (1) on her return from Paraguay, whither she went with the United States minister. The late commander of the *Wasp*, Mr. Manley, was to take passage in the *Portsmouth* to Rio, there to rejoin the flag-ship *Lancaster* (22) as executive officer.

WE have received the following explanation from Commander Selfridge in regard to his letter published last week:

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I regret to have seen in the last number of the JOURNAL a report of mine upon the survey of the Isthmus of Darien addressed to the President of the Republic of Colombia.

Its imperfect translation destroys much of the sense of the report, written under peculiar circumstances not proper to make public, and never intended for publication.

At the date of the report I had grave doubts of the capability of the Atrato for ship navigation as far as the mouth of the Napipi, which were happily dispelled upon communicating with Commander Lull, whom I had directed to make a survey of the Atrato.

THOMAS O. SELFRIDGE, Commander U. S. N.  
PORTLAND, September 13, 1871.

THE death of Count Bouët-Willamez, who last year occupied a prominent position during the late war as admiral of the French fleet in German waters, is announced. He was born in 1808, and commenced his naval career by entering the naval school in 1823. His earlier years were spent in South America and Africa, and his later services were in Russian waters and at Cherbourg and Toulon. In the late war, as our readers well know, the Baltic squadron under his command accomplished practically nothing; but though this result was due partly to defects in the French naval service, it was also owing in part to the decisive character of French reverses on land.

At the same time the suicide of another French admiral—Labrousse—who had spent nearly fifty years in the French naval service, is announced.

THE Navy Department has issued the following order:

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, August 29, 1870.

General Order No. 159.

For the more economical administration of the naval service, and in accordance with the spirit of the act of Congress entitled "An act to further promote the efficiency of the Navy," it is hereby ordered that:

I. From and after the 1st of October next, no retired officer of the Navy, shall be assigned to, or remain upon active duty, except as member of the Light-house Board, the board for the examination of officers for promotion and for the retired list, and at the Naval Asylum. And all such officers, not coming within the above exceptions, now on active duty, are relieved from that date.

II. Should either of the bureaus of the Department require at any time the services of any retired officer for any special duty, on account of his peculiar experience or fitness for the same, special application will be made to the Secretary of the Navy for such assignment by the President.

III. The position of Port Admiral is hereby discontinued, from and after the 1st of October, except at the port of New York.

GEO. M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 1, 1871.

General Order No. 163.

General Order, No. 159 for the more economical administration of the naval service, dated August 29, 1870, having been, from various causes, relaxed to some extent during the past year, is hereby renewed and will be hereafter conformed to, with modifications as follows:

I. From and after the 1st of October next no retired officer of the Navy above the rank of lieutenant-commander, except naval constructors, shall be assigned to or remain upon regular active duty except as members of the Lighthouse Board and at the Naval Asylum; and the regular term of duty for retired officers, ordered to or remaining upon duty on said board, or at the Asylum, shall not be held to exceed two years without special orders therefor.

All officers coming within the above provisions, now on active duty, are relieved from the first day of October next, except those on the Light-house Board or in command at the Naval Asylum, or of Navy-yards or stations, who will be relieved upon the reporting of the officers ordered for their relief.

II. The second section of General Order No. 159 is hereby rescinded.

III. The third section of General Order No. 159 will remain in force.

IV. The boards for the examination of officers for promotion and for the retired list are hereby consolidated into one, and will hereafter consist of not more than five members.

V. No more officers shall be ordered to the several Navy-yards and stations than will be necessary to discharge the duties required there, unless when they are ordered for the purposes of exercise and instructions.

This order is made after careful consideration, and it is believed to be in accordance with the spirit of existing laws and necessary for the welfare of the service, and it will not be relaxed in any instance.

GEO. M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.



DR. John M. Woodworth, supervising surgeon U. S. Marine Hospital Service, in his report to the Secretary of the Treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, states that the amount of hospital tax collected during that year was \$288,145 42; the number of days' relief to sick and disabled seamen were 437,287; expenses incurred for the same, exclusive of construction and repairs of Marine Hospital buildings, \$453,082 40; average cost per diem for maintaining each patient, \$1 04.

REAR-ADMIRAL James Alden, at present chief of the Bureau of Navigation and detailed at the Navy Department, will soon be detached therefrom and ordered to the command of the European Squadron. The *Wabash* (45), his flagship, is now nearly ready, and will probably sail about the middle of October. It is said that Admiral Alden will be succeeded in the Navigation Bureau by Captain Ammen, at present Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, who is an old school mate and friend of the President, and that Captain Ammen will be succeeded in the Bureau of Yards and Docks by Commodore C. P. R. Rodgers, who has been on special service in Europe for some time past.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Herald* says: "Although late news have been received from Corea, I trust the few facts I mention about the first movements of our fleet may not be entirely destitute of interest to your readers. The information comes direct by letter from an eye witness high in command in the expedition. The expedition was not conceived nor has it been carried out in an aggressive spirit. It was intended by our Government to open a friendly intercourse and trade with that dependency of China. I know that the expedition has been unfavorably criticised, but it is to be wondered at that similar steps have not been taken by our Government at an earlier period. A glance at the map will show what a prominent and at the same time dangerous part of the Chinese coast is formed by the large peninsula of Corea. It is certainly important that an endeavor should be made by our Government to secure a proper recognition at the hands of the Coreans. It was with this idea that the President sent his letter with the expedition, expressing his feelings of amity and his hope that a friendly intercourse would arise between the two countries. The fleet, states my informant, had the greatest difficulty in approaching the Korean coast. Dense and impenetrable fogs enveloped it most of the time, only lifting for a short period, at intervals of days, sufficiently for the fleet to seize the opportunity to feel its way along. The different vessels composing the fleet were thus for most of the time unable either to see or signal each other, and it was most fortunate that none were lost upon the almost unknown coast. On reaching the mouth of Salt River, leading to the capital of the country, numerous junk-like boats, filled with natives dressed somewhat like the Chinese, were seen, who apparently troubled themselves very little in observing the movements of our vessels, but busied themselves in fishing and in the gathering of shell fish. The 'chaps' upon the shores of the river also seemingly took but little notice of the presence of our fleet, though at night signal fires were lit upon the hill-tops to notify the country back of the presence of our fleet. Surveys and soundings were made for some distance up the river, under the supervision of Captain H. C. Blake, from which charts were made for present and future use."

#### OUR YACHT NAVY.

(From the London Broad Arrow.)

THE Duke of Wellington discovered the foundation of England's greatness in the cricket-field at Eton. May we not as correctly behold it in the pleasures and perils of the yachtsman? Cricket may make the soldier, but it is yachting that makes the sailor, and we could as little dispense with the latter as with the former. The life of the yachtsman is unique. He is a knight-errant of the water. He is a corsair of peace. He is an admiral on his own account—a practical poet, who needs neither public nor publisher. "The pulse's maddening play" he knows, but he is also familiar with the cool courage of one who does not quail in the presence of danger, and that inestimable self-confidence without which no true heroism is possible. He sails from port to port, now in sunshine and now in storm, trusting to his yacht as a huntman trusts to his horse, and learning to love the sea in a way that is altogether inexplicable to a landsman. His experiences may never be put on record, and his pleasures may never be sung, but who can tell the amount of value to the nation at large that is derived from the passion they engender and the provision they necessitate? The term yacht was once restricted to vessels of state employed in conveying royal personages, but the meaning is now confused and lost, though with the extension of the pastime itself the State derives a service of much greater value. Here, in the first place, is an outlet for youthful vigor and enterprise that might otherwise find less noble and less useful channels. The adventurous traveller adds a new region to our maps, and the nation honors him, Parliament thanks him, and the Queen gives him a title. But few ever think of the yachtsman, who explores our coasts, makes himself familiar with our local currents and dangers, trains his men to be admirable pilots, fits himself for a volunteer naval leader in troublous times, and maintains the prestige and reputation of our country.

As a nursery for our navy yachting is invaluable. It trains the best of our coast lads in the best manner, and forms a *corps d'élite*—we had almost said a series of *cadres*—for the navy. Without a farthing of cost to the public, it gives a man that taste for sea-roving, for the mere love of adventure, without which no great naval deeds were ever done. It teaches the yacht owner himself how to command, and instructs him in the value of good and trustworthy seamanship. If he can sail a yacht, he can hardly be a dull or a stupid individual, and he will have acquired a reserve store of tact, courage, and presence of mind that will never leave him in any difficulties or perils. He may never wear Her Majesty's uniform, but in any grave national danger he would be a splendid volunteer, and his men would be able to utilize a rare and ex-

tensive experience, either as pilots, torpedo-depositors, or as fighting men. It is our habit, in discoursing on our naval supremacy, to forget all these things, and to ground our arguments on guns, ships, and men afloat. But what the experiences of the hunting-field would do for our cavalry service in case of accomplished invasion, that our yachting experiences would do for the navy in case of a naval war. Many yachtsmen are better acquainted with our ports than the pilots themselves, and it is worth remembering that the French expedition to the Baltic was mainly a failure because the coast was so unfamiliar to the officers of Napoleon's navy.

But there are many coarser utilities. How should we keep our position as the first naval power in the world, if it were not for our experiments in ship-building? The man who can build a yacht in his own yard may not be able to compete with Mr. Read, or to produce a splendid turret-ship that will weather a gale in the Bay of Biscay; but he is, at least, a more intelligent critic, and our "wrinkles," as the wise call them, are the result of the sum total of these private experiences. Those were but small vessels that brought America within the range of British life and thought; and if we have since been able to build bigger ones, it is only because we have graduated in the art. Our yachts are a credit to us, and they show that we are thorough, building alike for strength, beauty, and speed.

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

##### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

###### ORDERED.

SEPTEMBER 7.—Lieutenant-Commander N. H. Farquhar, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Boston.

SEPTEMBER 8.—Lieutenant John K. Winn, to the receiving ship *Ohio*.

Lieutenant William T. Burwell, to the receiving ship *Vermont*.

Midshipman Haile O. Nye, to the *Kansas*.

First Assistant Engineer Walter D. Smith, to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

SEPTEMBER 9.—Passed Assistant Paymaster A. J. Greeley, to the store ship *Onward*, at Callao, Peru.

First Assistant Engineer Truman M. Jones, and Second Assistant Engineer Charles W. Rao, to the *Wabash*.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Captain C. H. B. Caldwell, to command the *Worcester*.

Medical Inspector Jacob S. Dungan, to the Naval Hospital, Mare Island, Cal.

Acting Sailsmaker Wm. Whitney, to the *Worcester*.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Lieutenant-Commander Geo. C. Remy, to the Naval Observatory.

Chief Engineer Clark Fisher, to the *Nantasket*.

Boatswain John A. Briscoe, and Gunner Wm. J. Ferguson, to the *Ossipee* per steamer of the 30th inst.

###### DETACHED.

SEPTEMBER 7.—Lieutenant-Commander B. F. Smith, from ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Boston, and placed on waiting orders.

Medical Inspector Edward Shippen, from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Wabash* as fleet surgeon of the European Fleet.

SEPTEMBER 8.—Lieutenant Wm. P. Randall, from the receiving ship *Ohio*, and ordered to the *Iroquois*.

Lieutenant C. B. Gill, from the *Cyane*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant E. D. Hitchcock, from the *Severn* on the 1st of October, and granted three months' leave.

Lieutenant Robert E. Impey, from the *Iroquois*, and placed on sick leave.

Paymaster Geo. E. Hendee, from the receiving ship *Independence*, and granted permission to return home.

Paymaster J. A. Smith, from the *California*, and ordered to settle accounts.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Henry G. Colby, from the *Cyane*, and ordered to the receiving ship *Independence*.

SEPTEMBER 9.—Paymaster J. F. Hamilton, from the store ship *Onward*, and ordered to return home.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Captain Charles H. Baldwin, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to command the *Colorado*, Asiatic Fleet.

Commander Wm. D. Whiting, from the command of the *Worcester*, and ordered as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, New York.

Commander Geo. H. Perkins, from the command of the *Relief*, and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster Frank Cosby, from the *Saranac*, and ordered to the *Pensacola*.

SEPTEMBER 12.—First Assistant Engineer D. P. McCartney, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

First Assistant Engineer J. H. Bailey, from the *Nantasket*, and ordered to return home.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending September 9:

John A. Bates, pay director, August 26, at Charlestown, Mass.

Samuel S. Smith, quarter gunner, June 10, U. S. steamer *Swarara*.

Daniel Rourke, landsman, July 13, U. S. steamer *Colorado*.

SEPTEMBER 9.

John A. Bates, pay director, August 26, at Charlestown, Mass.

Samuel S. Smith, quarter gunner, June 10, U. S. steamer *Swarara*.

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SEPTEMBER 9.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE ARIZONA CAMPAIGN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: When I wrote to you last, we were just leaving Camp Bowie. The command as then organized was as follows: Major-General Crook, commanding; Lieutenant Ross, acting quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence; Acting Assistant Surgeon Mullin; Troop D, Third Cavalry, Captain Guy V. Henry; Troop H, Third Cavalry, Captain Frank Stanwood and Lieutenant Robinson; Troop B, Captain Meinhold; Troop F, Captain Alexander Moore and Lieutenant Bourke; Troop L, Captain Brent; the packers, mules, etc.; and last but not least, the "Khedives" or scouts and guides, Mexicans and Indians. We left Bowie July 14, and arrived here August 12, 1871. Taking the trail running north, we struck out for Mount Graham, and by night marches over a dangerous country, by edges of cañons, one false step sending you to the bottom, getting your head knocked by limbs of trees, reminding you of the old days of travel on the "raging canawl" without the warning of "Low bridge;" passing Mounts Trumbull, Arinipa, and White mountains, crossing the Gila, Preto, and White rivers, we without casualties (excepting a wounded Mexican) arrived here.

As to the Indians, the Indian Bureau had taken the families of Cochise to their reservation in New Mexico, and of course he was unnumbered, and could do as he chose, making it impossible for us to catch him. This is a favorite trick of this Indian ring, and the sooner it is stopped the better. However, we have other things on our hands for the present. All friendly Indians who come in will be organized into bodies of troops and rendered of service to the Government.

The country we have passed through is the finest I have seen. The valleys are covered with majestic oak or pine, fine grazing, clear streams filled with fish, and deer and turkey on the plain and creeks. No one can form any idea of Arizona from travelling along the roads on the plains. There dust, stagnant water, mesquite bush, and hot air; here green grass, running streams, fine forests, and cool bracing air—a perfect paradise compared to the plains. Captain Henry's troop chased some Indians and took two prisoners; Captain Stanwood's captured some burros; Captain Moore's came near capturing Cochise. Wait till cool weather, when the Indians get together; then we will have a chance, which now, owing to the scattered condition of the Indians, we cannot have.

Two troops of our command have been sent back to their posts to get their horses, which have just come out. General Crook is temporarily engaged in his thorough reorganization, which will show in the future. Our command will be found somewhere in the Tonto Pinal, Sierra Ancha country, or thereabouts, for any inquiring friends. You will hear of us as we progress in our humanitarian work. We submit the following order:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA,

IN THE FIELD, CAMP APACHE, August 14, 1871.

Troops D, Captain Henry; F, Captain Moore; H, Captain Stanwood, Third Cavalry, Captain Guy V. Henry, Third Cavalry, in command, will constitute an expedition for the purpose of operating against hostile Indians in this department. This expedition will operate independent of any post, but the commanding officer is authorized to call on any post commander for what supplies or aid the expedition may require. Captain Henry will report to the undersigned for detailed instructions. Signed, GEORGE CROOK, Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-third Infantry, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army, commanding Department.

CAMP APACHE, A. T., August 15, 1871.

#### A LAUNDRESS' OPINION ON LAUNDRESSES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Noticing an article in your valuable paper, relating to company laundresses, written by a person signing "Ancient," I think such an article requires some reply for his sole benefit. He says one woman is worth than a company of men. I would like to ask him if he has ever been or ever expects to be a post or company commander?

It has been my fortune to be with the Army several years, during which time I have never seen or heard of a company laundress refusing to work for an officer, either married or single, whether belonging to the company or not, if he was gentleman enough to pay for his work when it was done. Some few think that if a woman is laundress and draws a ration, she is in duty bound to do their work and never think of such a thing as pay. One of that kind is very soon known wherever he goes, and consequently he gets the answer "Ancient" got.

The edicts of the post council, let it be where it will do not require any person's work to be done for nothing, and no just company commander will exercise his authority in any such matter.

Who ever heard of a man who went to forty women and couldn't get his washing done? "Ancient" must have been pretty well known in that post; must have been quite a ladies man when he left.

If "Ancient" paid his wash bill as a gentleman would he would have no cause to call on the board to have the status of these ladies (very polite) more explicitly defined, by revising paragraph 1,200, Revised Regulations which is very plain at present. A LAUNDRESS.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Is it not detrimental and injurious to the service for officers of a company of United States soldiers to permit, countenance, or encourage a secret society among the enlisted men of said company, said society being composed of the entire force of non-commissioned officers and two-thirds of the whole company, thereby leaving a very small minority who, according to the obligation imposed upon the members of the society, to aid and assist a brother member, whether in the right or wrong, in all and everything that may be for their good cannot be impartially dealt with either in the line of duty or otherwise?



The society referred to is known as the "Independent Order of Good Templars," and according to the teachings and requirements of the constitution thereof, each and every member is required to put himself under solemn obligation to uphold and sustain a brother member at all hazards, regardless of either principle, truth, or honor, thereby excluding the minority, a great many of whom are sober, intelligent, and faithful soldiers, from all favors, or the slightest chance of ever, during the existence of the society, becoming non-commissioned officers.

TUSCALOOSA.  
POST OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

### SEACOAST ORDNANCE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In reply to your remarks upon the contents of my communication published some weeks ago, I will state that the article was merely intended as an outline one for the purpose of drawing attention to the subject. The facts, however, were all correct as given.

No 10-inch gun has ever been made to deliver 1,000 rounds with an initial velocity of either 1,600 or 1,800 feet; and until it has been accomplished, the bare assertion of the possibility of such an achievement will have little weight or importance. It is certainly impossible as long as the gun is mounted upon the present regulation iron carriage. The Ordnance Department prescribe the charge to be used in this gun, and there is no authority extant for using more than fifteen pounds of powder in it. It will be found that the resulting velocity will in no case greatly exceed 900 feet.

As the 15-inch gun has never withstood a successful test, or in fact been subjected to a proper one, it would make a poor premise upon which to argue the merits or endurance of the 15-inch gun.

The anomalously high velocities of 1,800 and 2,000 feet obtained from the 15-inch gun were known to your correspondent; he is also aware of the fact that these velocities were not counted upon at all by the Ordnance people, and that they will be abundantly satisfied if they can obtain a safe and reliable assurance of a uniform velocity of 1,500 feet.\* It is true that not a few 15-inch guns have been burst; some of them had been subjected to extraordinary and improper strains, and had been fired quite a number of times. But it is understood that the last unfortunates were comparatively new guns, and in fact among those especially selected for the "endurance test" promised us in 1869. Whether the premature death of these victims—that occurred in the midst of elaborate preparations to sacrifice them more deliberately and scientifically—had anything to do with the indefinite postponement of the "trial of endurance," is not known to your correspondent. There is as yet no fixed prejudice against the 15-inch gun, and if it can be made by means of "perforated cake," or any other means, except an increase in its weight and dimensions, to deliver its projectiles with an initial velocity of 1,500 feet with safety to itself and those who serve it, it must be regarded as a powerful and valuable piece of ordnance, especially for very short ranges. That it loses its superiority very rapidly as the range increases will be manifest by inspection of the following table, approximately computed by Hélie's formulas:

Range, yards.....	15-inch guns, solid shot, 450 lbs. Charge 100 lbs.		9-inch English rifle, solid shot, 25 lbs. Charge 43 lbs.	
	Velocity, feet.....	Quantity of work, foot-tons.....	Velocity, feet.....	Quantity of work, foot-tons.....
0	1,550	.....	1,331	.....
166	1,450	6,450	1,300	2,900
333	1,370	5,800	1,280	2,750
500	1,320	5,270	1,240	2,650
666	1,260	4,800	1,210	2,560
833	1,210	4,370	1,190	2,450
1,000	1,150	4,000	1,170	2,375
1,166	1,110	3,700	1,150	2,300
1,333	1,070	3,400	1,120	2,200
1,500	1,020	3,100	1,095	2,110
1,666	980	2,900	1,075	2,050
1,833	950	2,720	1,050	1,950
2,000	910	2,550	1,030	1,890
2,500	850	2,150	1,000	1,750
3,000	790	1,820	990	1,660
3,500	710	1,600	970	1,610

The English 9-inch rifle is taken because it furnishes the only data within reach of the writer at the present time.

By inspecting this table it will be seen that the velocity of the shot from the English 9-inch gun exceeds that from the 15-inch at all distances above 1,000 yards, and the quantity of work at all distances above 3,500 yards. The quantity of work per inch of shot's circumference at one mile in the 15-inch projectile would be 65 foot-tons, and in the 9-inch it would be 72 foot-tons; at two miles it would be 37 foot-tons for the 15-inch, against 58 foot-tons for the 9-inch.

These statistics will tell more concerning the comparative value of smooth-bore and rifled guns than pages of discussion.

Your correspondent does not profess to be a "profound metallurgist," but he agrees with the "prevailing impression" that the quality of tenacity exists to a greater degree in wrought than in cast iron of corresponding grades. The previous communication spoke of the "innate strength of cast iron," the context would show that we alluded to gun metal only. Recognizing the fact that its strength depends upon its proper manufacture, that the ores, the furnaces, the manner and time of smelting, and the kind of blast, have been such as to produce the most tenacious metal, it was asserted that Rodman's method of casting but allowed the tenacity inherent in the metal to be preserved throughout the

\* To do this 100 lbs. of powder are necessary, but a general order of several years' standing prohibits the use of more than 50 lbs. on any occasion without special permission.

gun casting. No new property of strength had been added to the material. The method of cooling had enabled the artisan to change the shape of the metal without subjecting it to unnatural strains. Your correspondent once heard the distinguished inventor of the process labor for half an hour to get that idea within the comprehension of an Ordnance subaltern.

To neglect the best because of its cost is very poor economy to apply to anything; but it is so beyond estimate in all that relates to war. War is the most expensive luxury that can be indulged in, and it becomes more so in proportion to a want of preparation for it. When a powerful gun is wanted at all, it is wanted beyond any capacity for a measurement by dollars and cents, and they are powerless to furnish it on the instant. The difference between twenty million dollars' worth of cast-iron guns and two hundred millions worth of others would be regarded by Congress and the people as nothing if they could feel satisfied that the larger sum would render them secure, or even preserve intact the great centre of wealth, New York city, in case of a foreign war. If Congress has been backward in voting money for ordnance, may it not be said with some show of truth, it was because they did not see clearly that it would be spent for useful and reliable armaments?

X.

### THE ART OF HORSEMANSHIP.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The author of the "Lessons of the Decade" has answered a few criticisms on his last number in a letter which exhibits in a striking light the weakness of his logic and the strength of his temper. We were very careful in our remarks never to infringe in the slightest degree upon the rules of strict courtesy, and began our letter by a frank acknowledgment of the profit and pleasure which we had derived from the perusal of his letters.

"Volunteer Cavalryman" begins by saying that appeals to the authority of Messrs. Dwyer, Stonehenge, and Nimrod settle nothing. In other words, the opinion of men who have devoted the greater portion of their lives to the study and practice of some branch of knowledge, is worth nothing to persons honestly desirous of acquiring that knowledge. We admit that authority cannot be set up in opposition to well-established facts, or employed with success against principles capable of demonstration. Consequently authority has less weight in matters pertaining to the exact sciences than in any other. But the author will scarcely claim for horsemanship a place among the exact sciences, and must admit that there are few branches of knowledge which are more matters of experience and of observation, and therefore few in the discussion of which authority can be more properly invoked.

And how does the author reply to the authorities which we had quoted, and which will always have the weight with candid people which they are in the habit of according to the experience of the masters of any other profession? He first misrepresents one of the authorities, Dwyer, making him mean the exact reverse of his true meaning, and then in the face of his own argument proceeds to give us his own experience and his pony mare's, and to thank God that he wasn't taught by a riding master; all of which is very consistent and logical.

He talks of the red tape of the continental service, and selects the Austrian for a slur, which only proves his ignorance. The Austrian cavalry is probably the finest in the world, certainly only acknowledging the English as rivals in all matters pertaining to the handling of arms and horses. We have no wish to belittle the services rendered by our cavalry, admirably adapted to the exigencies of an intricate and heavily-wooded country. They were rather mounted infantry, and it was of far more importance how they could fight on foot than how they could ride or handle their horses. In fact, to be able to ride sufficiently well to move with celerity from place to place, and to take reasonably good care of their horses, was about the sum of their requirements as cavalry. How many genuine sabre charges did the author witness in the East? If our memory serves us right, Aldie, Upperville, Beverly Ford, with one or two charges in the Valley with Sheridan upon a shaking line, were about all. Does he consider the sabre, as made in this country and as handled by our men, as any match for a good club in the hands of a strong man? And does he honestly believe that we had any cavalry which in an open country could have stood the shock of the heavy division which under Sir James Scarlett hewed their way into the dense masses of the Russian cuirassiers at Balaklava?

Attempted ridicule of men who honestly and laboriously acquire an art and teach it is generally the accompaniment of ignorance and bigotry. Whether an Austrian riding master would have made our cavalry more efficient for the peculiar duties which were required of them, is a fair question; that he would have made them much better riders cannot be reasonably doubted. The Austrian military seat is about the best in existence, and depend upon it, no man, recruit or otherwise, will ride any worse for having his legs in the right position. Our men could stick on, doubtless, but could they keep their horses together in a charge, and could they bring to the charge that momentum which is attained by the excellent horsemen and disciplined troopers which our author in his ignorance attempts to undervalue? The fact is that he is troubled with that spirit of rampant Americanism which has earned so much well-deserved ridicule for some specimens of our countrymen, which pointed the sarcasm of the greatest of English satirists, and gave to the world the unflattering but not altogether untrue portrait of the Hon. Jefferson Brick.

His remark about a people who have gumption enough to do without a riding master is of a piece with the speech of a blatant Western demagogue who spoke of Vinnie Ream as having emancipated herself from the trammels of classic art. To our national sorrow and mortification there is some ground for this assertion, and the statue is likely to stand for some time as the monu-

ment of emancipated American art, and a little above the work of an average stone-cutter. We have not time to dwell upon his noble indignation at our allusion to the pioneers of rough riding in America. His apparent holy horror of the race-course, carried so far as to call the mere allusion to it "slang," is just what we might expect from a local parson, but would hardly look for in an officer, and, above all, a horseman. We seriously doubt if he ever saw the finest specimen of the horse—the thoroughbred—and wonder that he doesn't extend this dislike to the whole race which furnish such immortal creatures. He here again converts himself into a temporary projectile and hurls himself and his regiment at our head. He was not at that race (blush all ye degenerate who attended), but was pursuing the steeples of Richmond—a matter of great interest to himself. Some of the rest of us were in the war, but we don't hurl our services at the head of all comers, and we don't stigmatize as blacklegs a very decent and hard-working class of professionals—gallant fellows, some of them, who take their lives in their hands and ride bravely and honestly. Americans may be a little shocked at an officer of the British Guards riding in public, but they are almost always gentlemen, and Captain Fox would never have designated a class of whom he knew as little as the author of the "Lessons" does by an epithet as undeserved as it is indecent.

READER.

### M. O. L. L. U. S. REDIVIVUS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: On my return from the country this week, I first saw "M. O. L. L. U. S.," answered, in yours of August 26. It is true that I confined my investigation of the pasteboard problem to the square, but I do not agree with "Willett's Point" that my success would only have solved a particular case, because the formula must apply to all rect-angled figures. I am curious to see that question solved in numbers.

In the solution of my question, he refers to Euclid (I. 47) for authority that  $a^2 - 2ax + x^2 = b^2 + a^2$  (so printed). I do not find that Euclid assumes that  $a$  includes the perpendicular and hypotenuse, for  $a^2 - 2ax + x^2$  are not equal to  $b^2 + a^2$ ; the  $a^2$  and  $x^2$  are superfluous. The sign connecting  $a^2$  and  $b^2$  in the last equation ought to be plus, not minus.

Allow me to submit my own solution:  $\frac{a}{2} + \frac{b^2}{2a} = x$ .

M. O. L. L. U. S.

### FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM W. PARRY.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH INFANTRY, }  
CAMP DOUGLASS, U. T., September 5, 1871. }

General Orders No. 47.

It is the painful duty of the colonel commanding to announce to the regiment the loss of one of its most promising officers, First Lieutenant William W. Parry, post quartermaster, Camp Douglass, U. T., who died at this post yesterday, September 4, of typhoid fever.

Lieutenant W. W. Parry entered the service of the United States as second lieutenant of volunteers, being afterwards transferred with the same grade to the Sixteenth and subsequently to the Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, where he was promoted first lieutenant in 1867. In the last reorganization of the Army he was assigned to the Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, January 1, 1871, and during the too short period he served among us, he won the respect and affection of his brother officers by his devotion to duty as a military man, and by his excellent qualities and pleasant manners as a gentleman. His loss will be deeply felt and long remembered among all those who knew him.

The officers of this regiment, as an expression of respect to the memory of their departed comrade, will wear the usual badges of mourning during thirty days.

R. DE TROBRIAND,

Colonel Thirtieth Infantry, commanding.

Official: J. T. MCGINNIS First Lieutenant and Adjutant, Thirtieth Infantry.

THE telegraph informs us that a large and enthusiastic meeting of the committee having in charge the arrangements for a soldiers' reunion, to be held at Wheeling on the 19th and 20th of October, was held September 10, at Wheeling. Colonel Thayer Melvin and Captain R. H. Cochrane were appointed to deliver addresses of welcome to the soldiers on behalf of the Society of the Army of West Virginia, and Mayor Jefferson on behalf of the city. It is expected that not less than two thousand soldiers from Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia will be present. Letters, it is reported, have been received from many celebrated generals who served in West Virginia promising to be present. Generals McClellan, Banks, and Cox are certain to be present, and others are expected.

ON Monday, Sept. 11, Maj.-Gen. Gortoff, of the Russian army, made a tour of inspection to the Rand powder mill, three miles west of Newburgh. The General was accompanied by the president and superintendent of the company owning the establishment—one of the largest of the kind in the country. It has a four years' contract to supply the Russian Government with ammunition. The General's visit was made for the purpose of ascertaining whether the methods and machinery in use for the manufacture of powder in this country might not offer some improvement over those employed by his Government. The General is accompanied in his visit to this country by his wife and daughter.

THE telegraph informs us that the military manoeuvres at Aldershot are progressing, and the reports from the camp speak favorably of their character and the results thus far obtained. General John G. Barnard and Major Sumner, of the U. S. Army, are in attendance as representatives of the American Government.



**TRANSFER.—A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF AN** Infantry regiment, serving on the Plains (white), date 1866, desires to transfer. Any other First Lieutenant of either Infantry, Cavalry or Artillery also desiring a transfer please address CENTURION, ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. All communications received and treated confidentially.

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**TRANSFER TO THE MARINES.—A First Lieut-**enant of Infantry, well up on the roster, will, if practicable, transfer with any first lieutenant of Marines, with about the same prospects of promotion. It is believed that this can be effected by special legislation, if not otherwise. Address C. M., care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**TRANSFER.—A CAPTAIN OF A WHITE INFAN-**TRY regiment, serving at a pleasant post in the West, desires to transfer to another regiment of Infantry or Cavalry (white). Address CAPTAIN, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**TRANSFER.—A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF AR-**TILLERY (near the foot of the list), serving at one of the most desirable posts on the Atlantic coast, would transfer with a First Lieutenant of Cavalry (white), serving on the Plains, New Mexico, Utah, or Colorado preferred. Address SUB, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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DIAMONDS A SPECIALTY.

**THE Volunteer Review** of Montreal replies to our remarks on the prospects of the Canada Pacific Railroad as follows:

Our answer to all this is simply that the Dominion is bound by the terms of union to British Columbia to build this railway within ten years; that over three-fourths of its length will be through the richest arable and prairie land in the world, while over one-third of the Southern Pacific Railway (United States) lies through the great central desert, and nearly another third through the sterile slopes of the Rocky Mountains; that on the eastern slopes of those mountains, within the period of ten years, a larger population will be settled in British territory than California now owns; and finally; whenever our railway touches the Pacific, a depot amply sufficient for the direct trade between Liverpool, Canton, Yeddo, and Calcutta will be established. Canada requires this railway for the purpose of opening up her territories and for political considerations, apart from the actual traffic it is sure to command. Our neighbors should remember that we possess mineral regions of vast extent immediately on the line between Canada and the Red River country and on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains; the largest and most productive coal fields in the world being on the eastern, while gold is found abundantly on that and on the western slopes, while we must have access to the 50,000,000 acres of black earth which are destined to be the wheat granary of North America; and when our contemporary thinks over these reasons he will be satisfied that the railway must be a productive investment.

All this simply begs the question as we presented it. The Dominion road may have more arable land along its route than any road of ours, but each one of ours has enough to absorb the entire immigration to this continent for ten years. All through the desert spoken of above and on those "sterile slopes," most of the land yields more wheat to the acre than New York. To say that British Columbia can attract more people in ten years than California in twenty, is simple assertion, and contrary to our experience, which, though occurring in a democratic country, is still actual experience, and may be studied with profit in a monarchical one.

The facts we brought forward on this subject were not given so much in criticism of the Canadian undertaking as for their lesson of the futility of local excitements and attractions, however powerful, to seriously affect the currents of popular migration. We pointed to the remarkable history of California neither in praise nor dispraise of the Pacific railroad, but as a profound lesson in political economy; one which, in the hurry and *clat* of past years, the Californians have failed to perceive, but which now, amid commercial stagnation and financial depression, they are reluctantly and heavily pondering. The Canada road will undoubtedly be built, since it is a matter of political contract to build it, and on political grounds it is probably needed, and may be a success; but financially, the undertaking has a very different look to us.

By invitation of the British Government two officers from each country will attend the fall manoeuvres at Aldershot. Germany sends Field Marshal VON BLUMENTHAL and Count VON ALTEN; and for the United States, General BARNARD and Major SUMNER will be present. It cannot be doubted that results of the very highest importance will follow these manoeuvres; and we may say, without exaggerating any of the possible dangers of England, that this new step in the improvement of her army will undoubtedly be an element of no mean strength in the preservation of her national position.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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### THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

THE Board of Visitors to the Military Academy is an ornamental appendage to our military establishment, which we find it hard to put to any practical use, though we cannot quite make up our minds to wholly do without it. The machinery of our Army administration secures all necessary supervision of the national educational establishment, and the chief purpose the Board serves is to reassure Congress and the country as to the conscientious fidelity with which the trust here committed to it is discharged by the Army. For the rest, these annual boards amuse themselves by proposing changes which are never made, by airing theories which die in the birth, and by indulging in criticisms which go upon the record only to be forgotten. In the case of the last board, whose report we publish this week, their recommendations are less likely than the average to receive attention, for it seems to us lacking both in signs of that hearty interest in the national school which other boards have impressed upon their productions, and in the character which would do much to lend weight to its suggestions. The main points of the report are changes in discipline, faculty organization, and curriculum. In discipline, the present practice of allowing intercourse on all days of the week between the senior cadets and the officers, the influence of the summer fashionable season upon the cadets, and the opportunity a rich cadet has to spend money over and above the regulation allowance, are compared with the rules of twenty-five years ago, and a return to the strict regulations of that time is advised. To this there can be no very serious objection. Stiff relations between instructors and students are opposed to modern educational ideas; but, as the board observe, an army is not to be governed on the same principles as other organizations, and the Military Academy is less an institution of learning than a part of the Army system.

The recommendation in regard to the retirement of officers, we think, has everything in its favor; and in coupling the specification of certain officers who, in their judgment, should be immediately retired, with the general principle of retirement at a fixed age, we are glad to observe that the board urge liberal pensions in their cases.

With the question of academic standing the board deals boldly. It proposes to establish a preparatory class, admission which is to be preceded by the same examination as that now had on entering the Academy. This is an old recommendation, but we do not remember to have seen the same reason given for it. The board, in endeavoring to combine the lesson of "universal experience" that four years are all that can be spared to the acquisition of a liberal profession, with the other fact that in the present expansion and minuteness of scientific inquiry four years is no more than is absolutely needed for the study of military duties, have come to the conclusion to make the term at the Academy five years instead of four! Into this preparatory year, if we understand aright the not very clear scheme of the board, all or most of the studies other than military are to be crowded. In this recommendation the board has taken the most radical of the two solutions of the difficulty which are open to the (Congressional) managers of the Acad-

emy. One is simply to raise the standard of admission, and thus force candidates to seek the necessary scholarship in the ordinary schools of the country; the other is to form a preparatory school, as the board advises.

In this country, which lacks a national system of schools, and even all adaptation of low and high grade schools to each other's necessities, this last plan certainly has very marked advantages. Given a preparatory school, with as excellent a system of instruction as West Point has, we should have as candidates for the Military Academy a class of cadets who would be fitted to carry their studies to the point which is absolutely necessary nowadays to make the successful engineer and commander. But such a school would cost money, both for its establishment and conduct; and we remember nothing in the temper of Congress which warrants the supposition that more money will be spent upon the Academy. It is for this reason that we regret to see the board lending all its authority to a proposal that is almost sure to fail.

THE Army and Navy Club, established in New York last spring, has proved a success far beyond the expectations of those who organized it. It now numbers about two hundred and fifty members, among whom are many officers of the highest standing in both arms of the service. That such a club is needed, and that it can accomplish valuable results for the Army and Navy, has long been generally acknowledged. There was at first some difference of opinion as to its proper location; but no place so suitable as New York or so eligible for most officers could be suggested, and now we think there is no doubt felt that the Fifth Avenue of New York is the true situation for such a club. Not only are many officers of the Army and Navy stationed in and around the city, but hither duty, or business, or pleasure brings large numbers of officers every year. Moreover, such a club, with our present small services, needs outside help, and that help can nowhere be obtained so well, so easily, and so largely as in New York, where great numbers of the richest and socially most desirable citizens were in the volunteer service during the war, and are ready to join the Regular Army and Navy in building up a club which shall be an honor to all alike.

It has been a subject of remark by foreign officers, particularly English officers, that a country which developed such great military resources and so widespread a martial spirit as ours should allow the associations created and the fellowships formed under the trying circumstances of a long war to rust away for the lack of some common rendezvous where officers could meet and perpetuate them. It has also been a subject of chagrin to the officers of our Army and Navy who have visited Europe and received the generous hospitality of army and navy clubs there, that we had nothing of a corresponding character in this country through which to reciprocate such attentions; for the United Service and Army and Navy Clubs of London are known to extend the most cordial consideration to the officers of our Army and Navy when they visit that city. While we are an industrial people, and a nation jealous of our civil rights, amounting almost to prejudice against the Army in times of peace, there can be no objections to our mingling sufficient martial spirit with our business and social relations to keep us ripe for emergencies. It is to the high credit of our officers of the late war, both volunteer and regular, that they seldom fight their battles over again in their social and business intercourse with people in civil life. There is a general and commendable disposition on the part of these gallant soldiers to forget the war and its political results, and it is only when a few of them meet together who were perhaps engaged in the same campaigns that the incidents of the late war are discussed, or Army subjects made a matter of conversation. The Army and Navy Club affords an opportunity for the meeting of old comrades, and if kept within proper bounds can lead to nothing but good results.

All officers of the regular or volunteer Army and Navy are eligible for membership to the club; but the strictest care is exercised by the committee of managers having the admission of members in charge to preserve a high social and moral tone by a rigid scrutiny of the character and record of



every applicant for membership. Non-resident members, or those residing or doing duty sixty miles away from New York for a year, are only required to pay the initiation fee of \$50; while resident members, or those residing or doing duty within sixty miles of this city, are required to pay, in addition to the initiation fee, yearly dues of \$30. We learn that the receipts of the club thus far are ample for all present expenses, and the prospect for a large increase of membership during the coming winter very encouraging. The officers and committees of the club have been well selected, and there is no reason why, with proper management, it should not become one of the most prosperous and permanent clubs of New York.

ADVICES from Panama state that our representative at Bogota has been directed to demand satisfaction of the Colombian Government for the seizure of the American steamer *Montijo* in April last; the satisfaction to consist of compensation for damages and the trial of THOMAS HERRERA and others for piracy. HERRERA seized the steamer for political purposes, and had a schooner in waiting to transfer arms to the *Montijo*, and thus start his "provisional government," which expired by treaty with the constitutional government. The later events on the Mexican coast bear the complexion of piracy. For some reason Captain THURSTON, who commanded the bark *Brothers*, saw fit to iron two of his men, whose friends on shore demanded their release. Failing in this, a party of ten men came off to the ship, and while seated around the captain's table suddenly rose, drew swords and pistols, and demanded the ship. In the resulting fight two escaped, the rest being killed. The captain, fearing attack from larger numbers, and there being no wind, took to his boats just as two boats put off from shore and rowed to his vessel. After thirty hours in the boats without food or water, he was picked up by the *Harvest Home*. This attack occurred August 27. On the night of the same day the *Harvest Home*, which was lying in the harbor, was fired on by a party seventy or eighty strong, who came off from the shore armed with rifles and a howitzer; but the marauders beat a retreat after receiving one volley from the *Harvest Home*. A breeze sprang up, and the vessel was able to get to sea, picking up Captain THURSTON and his crew the next day. These serious breaches of law have made it necessary to provide for the increase of our naval force in Mexican waters, while the State Department will undertake the task of stirring up the Mexican Government to do its duty.

THE defalcation of Army Paymaster Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. HODGE is a new proof of the necessity there is for the overhauling now going on of the system of accounts. Colonel HODGE entered the service as additional paymaster January 17, 1867; and as he has been engaged in stock speculations and gold gambling "for several years," according to the dailies, he must have commenced his operations very soon after receiving his commission. The amount of his theft, however—half a million—is not so great but that in these times he could have lost it all in a very few months, and without making himself prominent as a speculator. He covered his transactions by making false entries, and it was the extension of this system to quarters where it could not escape notice that led to his exposure. There is said to be a dispute between the War and Treasury Departments as to which should be deemed the more remiss in the failure to discover the falsity of the accounts. It is of little importance to us how this dispute is decided, but we would like to see some improvement in the method of accounts grow out of this loss. It has always seemed to us that in carrying on a business of enormous detail such as that of the Government, perfect simplicity offered a better chance of safety than complexity of accounts. The swindler, whether professional or casual, is one of the hardest-working men alive. From the moment he takes his hazardous seat upon the whirligig of crime he makes bookkeeping, accounts, systems, his study with an enthusiasm which is unknown in the ordinary course of business. Given a fixed system which is not secret, but so public that he can learn it, and he will learn how to circumvent it.

We look upon this new crime with especially un-

pleasant feelings. War, while it nobly organizes a nation, often disorganizes private character; and in the hurry, confusion, and immense extension of public business incidental to a time of war, temptations are presented to those dealing with Government affairs which sometimes drag down the most prominent among men accepted as honest. No doubt shameful and fearful secrets lie undiscovered in the history of our war, and some men are honored now whose treachery to their country in its most dependent time would make them infamous were it known. We can feel a certain sympathy for those who succumb to unusual excitements; but in this last case there was none such. Paymaster HODGE entered the service nearly two years after the war closed; the Army had been mostly disbanded, and the Government service, though more extended than in the previous decade, had resumed its even course. Painful as the reflection is, we can find nothing in his case which should call for more than the sympathy which the fallen can claim because they are fallen.

At length the time has come for the Germans to evacuate the Paris forts. The French have paid enough of the enormous war compensation demanded of them to secure that result, and if it has been done under pressure of that hatred of a German face which is said to be the prevailing spirit of the French, we can respect the people who, without carrying the country's welfare on their shoulders, are galled by the presence of their conquerors; while we censure those fanatics in the Assembly who would sacrifice their country any day rather than their vanity. There are features of the German occupation which would make almost any effort on the part of the French rulers for its speedy termination proper, and would lend respectability to almost any spirit in the people that tended to that consummation. The Germans complain that while their troops are orderly and quiet, they are murdered without provocation. The *German Correspondent* gave an account a week or two ago of an attack upon a cavalry patrol, which while standing in a village was suddenly fired upon from a number of windows, the signal to fire being the ringing of the town bell. The German troops in fact appear to meet with about the same reception that our Army had in the captured cities of the South. We can say to the French that if they propose to nurse their sores as persistently as the Southerners theirs, they had better keep the fact to themselves; for their loans will be hard to place if that intention becomes known.

MR. PUNCH, remarking upon the introduction of swimming clubs into the British army, observes that he would like to see the art of swimming taught to the navy too. Unfortunately the sneer has received new force in the grounding on the Isle of Wight of the *Racer*, used as a training ship for naval apprentices; as if all the mishaps which had gone before were not enough to point a jester's sarcasm. Still, is there not a good deal of unnecessary comment upon these misfortunes? They are not uncommon in the history of other navies, and the English service certainly has no more than its share of them. The grounding of the *Agincourt* lifted the veil from a perfunctory and ridiculous system of naval etiquette, which in its operation reminds one of the very harmful jealousies that during our war prevented the coöperation of generals who should have hung together like privates in one file. But if that is swept away, as it is likely to be by the effect of the severe verdict of the Admiralty, we do not see why the British service should not be the gainer by the *Agincourt's* grounding.

It is said that all our trouble with Corea would have been prevented had the *Wachusett*, which visited that peninsula in 1868, made her stay five hours longer; for, according to Chinese accounts, there is news from authentic sources that the Coreans then prepared and sent forward a letter explaining the case of the *General Sherman*, offering apologies, and promising future amendment. This letter, however, was delayed, and did not arrive until after the sailing of the *Wachusett*. In consequence of this news many of the dailies have raised an outcry against the Government, charging it with some inexplicable criminality in acting without the knowledge of a letter which was never sent to it. Wheth-

er the letter was really ever written we know not, and at present there is no proof either way. But certainly, if the Coreans had decided upon peaceable measures, they could have received our expedition in a peaceable manner, and in the preliminary interviews delivered the 1868 letter or repeated its protestations of reform. They knew of the expedition in time to assemble a considerable army to meet it, and knew of its intentions and purposes, and they had every opportunity to make peaceable as well as hostile preparations. The story of the letter is merely a rumor; the circumstantial evidence against it, or at least against the peaceable intentions of the Coreans, is unmistakable and very strong.

WE have received a pamphlet giving an account of the construction and trials of the French steam yacht *L'Hirondelle*, which at the time of its building was the "Imperial" yacht. Built for the Emperor's personal use, the conditions it was designed to satisfy were determined by him, and the injunction given to push every useful quality to the highest perfection, while in the mere furniture of the saloon perfect simplicity was to be sought. He decided upon high-pressure engines, with two independent screws limited the draught to four metres, and prescribed a speed of sixteen knots and a coal supply for two days.

The hull was built by NORMAND of Havre, and is 76 metres long and 9.28 metres wide. With 160 tons of coal and 105 men, with the necessary supplies, the deepest draught is 3.94 metres, and the mean 3.72. The boilers are tubular, high-pressure, "inexplosible, on the Belleville system." Filled with water, they weigh 103 tons; their grate surface is 31.5 square metres and their heating surface 935 square metres. The engine weighs 150 tons, indicates 2,125 horse-power, and gives a maximum speed in calm weather of 16.41 knots and 120 revolutions of the propellers; half speed, 13.4 knots. In a trip from Cherbourg to the Isle of Wight, and return, with all the fires lighted, but without urging them, the speed was 15¼ knots and the horse-power 1,705. In all its performances the yacht made a most creditable exhibit, and its designers may well consider themselves to have established the value of machines which may hereafter find a much more extensive use. The plans and construction of the vessel and machinery were placed under the supervision of M. DUPUY DE LOME, whose labors in behalf of the modern French navy are so well known. He chose M. GUESNET, marine engineer at Havre, to oversee the work, and the pamphlet before us is issued by the last-named gentleman.

EVER since the retirement from the Admiralty's service of Naval Constructor REID, the fault-finders in England have given that gentleman one position or another of the greatest importance; and from the frequent mention of his name in connection with foreign services, we should suppose the crowned heads of Europe were acting toward him very much as hackmen act toward a new-landed passenger. Now, however, it appears that England is not to lose her distinguished son, since "it is now reported by cable that the entire ship-building business of the port of Hull has been transferred to a company, the leading officers of which are Vice-Admiral ROBERT SPENCER ROBINSON and Naval Constructor REID."

A LETTER signed "Ancient," in a recent number of the JOURNAL (August 12), pretty severely and yet quite temperately criticised the company laundresses. To it we have received a reply from one of that useful and eminently respectable body by our correspondent assailed, which throws down the gauntlet to "Ancient" in a style and with a spiteful energy which compel our admiration. It is only gallantry to the other sex for us to give the spirited *blanchisseuse* the opportunity to say the last word, albeit that word is uncomplimentary to "Ancient," and, we are compelled to believe, very unjust to him also.

SECRETARY Robeson and party had an official reception at the Portsmouth Navy-yard September 12. A salute of fifteen guns was fired, and the officers of the yard were introduced to the Secretary, who visited the public offices. An elegant reception was afterward given the party by Commodore Pennock at his residence. Secretary Robeson will spend a few days at Rye Beach.



## LESSONS OF THE DECADE APPLIED.—NO. IX.

**SQUAD DRILL.—TURNS.**—The squad marching in file, it may become necessary to change direction of head of file. The instructor after proper explanation commands, *Right—TURN!* At the word "Turn" the file-leader marches to the right according to the instructions given (to the right—march), and each man as he arrives at the same place follows his file-leader, the instructor cautioning them against turning too soon. To accustom them to this, he should make his turns around a post or marker at first, afterwards discontinuing its use.

*Left—TURN!* is executed on inverse principles. *Right about* and *Left about—TURN* are made so as to head the file in the opposite direction. The squad marching in file to form it in line to the front, the instructor commands, *Form squad—MARCH!* At the command "Form squad," the men fix their eyes on the instructor, who will be on one side the head of the file. At the word "March," the leader file-halts and the rest oblique up alongside of him on the flank where the instructor has halted, whichever it be, and facing him. As each man reaches the alignment he halts and dresses on the file-leader, now become a pivot man.

To resume the march the instructor commands, *FORWARD!* and the squad marches in line. To form squad to the rear, the about march must be first executed. The instructor indicates in all cases by waving his sword or hand the flank to which formations are to be made, saving his voice.

## RIGHT WHEEL—MARCH!



## LEFT WHEEL—MARCH!



**WHEELS.**—After teaching the changes from line to file, and back again, at a halt, marching, and double quick, the instructor explains the principles of wheeling and commands, *Squad right wheel—MARCH!* At the words "right wheel," all the men dress to the right, with their eyes fixed on the right-hand man or pivot. He alone looks to the left. At the word "March" all step off, the pivot man turning slowly in his place, marking time, the men next to him moving in very short steps, the outside men stepping out freely, and preserving the alignment. Arrived at a sufficient distance, the instructor commands, *Squad—HALT!* when the line is halted and dressed.

*Left wheel—MARCH!* is executed on inverse principles, the left-hand man being pivot. Right about and left about wheels are continued till the line faces in an opposite direction to the first. The line will always be dressed after a wheel.

## REMARKS.

The causes of unsteady and wavering wheels almost always lie near the pivot. The men there cannot learn to shorten step sufficiently without sharp supervision. In consequence, the line bulges out near the centre. The men inside the centre must be specially cautioned on this point. A second cause is, crowding the pivot. The men must be cautioned to yield to pressure from his side, and to resist pressure from the outside.

Wheels must be made very slowly at first. The squad must be halted and dressed every time the line wavers in the least.

One hour's steady, slow wheeling will improve recruits more than days of hurried, imperfect wheels.

When the squad can execute the wheels steadily, at a slow pace, they must be put to common time, quick time, and double-quick time, and bugle drills. When they execute these correctly, and not till then, they must be exercised in marching wheels, in precisely the same manner, resuming the direct march at the word "Forward!"

The wheelings terminate squad drill. Green troops should be kept at this drill for some time, the most exact precision being required in every movement. Simple as the drill is, if not precisely done it is quite worthless. Exactly performed, it becomes the groundwork for all future usefulness as soldiers, in the troops using it. When men have learned to change from line to file and back again, to change their direction promptly in either formation by wheels and turns, and finally to do all this at the double quick, without any disorder, they have learned the first lesson of tactics, viz., to move a number of men as a unit. After this their progress will be easier every day.

No commander should be satisfied with his company till it can execute every movement at the double quick, to the sound of the bugle. This bugle drill makes the men quick of apprehension, and cannot be overrated in

advantages for initiatory drill. Every subsequent lesson will prove easier to master with quick-witted soldiers.

## THE ORDNANCE AND ARTILLERY.

## A REPLY TO THE PAMPHLET ENTITLED "A FEW THOUGHTS ON ARTILLERY."

## I.

THE recent brochure of General Morgan seems to have awakened considerable interest among Army officers. Apparently, the point of chief significance therein presented is that relating to the consolidation of the ordnance and artillery. How much weight is really attached to his arguments by the Army at large it is quite impossible to conceive. Presuming that it may be considerable, it is fair to infer that a reply to them may be received with equal attention. Glancing over the pamphlet of General Morgan, the arguments which he advances are capable of being summed up as follows: The ordnance and artillery should be consolidated, because such a measure would promote the efficiency of both corps. This assertion is broadly made. It is, of course, a very general proposition, and, like all general propositions, should be shown to rest upon well-established facts of a most specific nature before it is entitled to acceptance. But in seeking for these specific facts, or for any facts which may be converted into a substantial proof of this general statement, we are obliged to confess our inability to find them. It is true that he brings forward several reasons for dissatisfaction with the present condition of the artillery, both as regards its organization and its *esprit de corps*, but we utterly deny their applicability to the main question at issue, and are prepared to show that the measure which he proposes as a remedy is so far from having that character as to involve serious detriment to both corps and to the interest of the service.

Let us examine these reasons one by one. The first reason brought up relates to what he assumes to be a difficulty in the examination of questions relating to the science of gunnery and material, lying in that debatable ground where the subjects of investigation may belong to either corps. He fails to state, or even to hint, the precise character of these questions. Doubtless such there are, but surely it is not a fair statement of the case to assert that because the functions of two organizations overlap each other, or shade into each other, without a definite boundary, this debatable ground is, for that reason, unoccupied. So far is this from being a sound reason for inaction, that the amount of progress made in it ought to be doubled. Neither jealousy nor apathy should prevent the officers of both corps from developing to the utmost every vein of research; and if, as we would like to believe to be the case, they unite in a common desire and generous emulation to advance their respective professions, the common opportunity is doubly advantageous to both. This is the more hopeful and liberal view, as well as the more logical.

The failure to occupy this common field is not due, on the part of the Ordnance Department at least, to any jealousy of the artillery, nor to any doubt as to the propriety of its doing so; and certainly not to any conviction that this field belongs to the artillery alone. The true reason, so far as they are concerned, is of a totally different nature, being nothing more nor less than lack of funds.

General Morgan cannot urge that the artillery are barred out from the field of experimental practice. There are many important scientific and practical questions which it is not only proper for, but incumbent upon, the artillery to investigate; e.g., tables of ranges and the general data of firing, the determination of pressures and velocities, and the practical working of materials. There are other questions, too, which it is not at present permitted to investigate, viz., those relating to construction of guns and projectiles. But a little reflection will surely satisfy General Morgan that these graver and profounder questions involve such enormous expense and are so exacting that they cannot and ought not to be entrusted promiscuously to anybody. They are conducted under the eye of the bureau immediately, and the officers who are selected to carry them out are merely instruments of very limited discretion, and in the most important cases of no discretion at all. Let not General Morgan suppose that his contemplated reorganization is going to permit any officer to experiment *ad libitum* or for the purpose of carrying out his own ideas. Ordnance officers are not allowed to spend one dollar in this manner without express permission from the bureau.

The argument that eligibility to ordnance duty is needed as a spur to the ambition of artillery officers, is, we think, sufficiently answered by the statement that these duties are to be performed in the interest of the Government and not for the purpose of encouraging anybody. We do not believe that artillery officers require any such stimulus as the prospect of ordnance duty to quicken them to a proper sense of the present demands of their profession upon their love or ambition.

The writer, after alluding courteously to the liberality characterizing the intercourse of the ordnance with the artillery, and its readiness to conform promptly to all suggestions of merit emanating from the latter, states that "if we had a more direct interest in making these suggestions, a hundred would be made where one is now. The adaptability or non-adaptability of ordnance material for the purposes for which it is intended becomes apparent only in use, and nearly every change for the better that is made in the construction must of necessity be due to recommendations of officers in whose hands the material has been placed."

The first statement is vague, general, and sweeping. It is evidently ill-considered, and fails to convey upon close examination any meaning sufficiently definite to get hold of. It is, moreover, a naked assertion in any case, is entirely unsupported by proof, and calls for no present answer. If he will indicate in what manner and by virtue of what causes the "direct interest" of

those officers will be increased, and will show what probability there is that more valuable and fewer worthless suggestions will emanate from newly-appointed than from the present ordnance officers, and will finally show what benefit the artillery at large will derive from these suggestions over and above what they get now, we shall be glad to concede the force of this argument. The present Ordnance Department, as he courteously and gracefully concedes, is especially attentive to the suggestions of artillery officers—more so indeed than to those within its precincts. And for a very good reason. As the vast, the overwhelming majority of suggestions coming from any source are impracticable and worthless, those coming from within the department are and ought to be quietly pigeonholed, unless they are specially meritorious or promising. It is "all in the family," and nobody feels hurt or injured. But the suggestions of line officers are always treated with the extra respect due to strangers in order to maintain the more fragile and delicate relations of good neighborhood. Repeatedly have suggestions from the line been acted upon at the bureau which had they been made by ordnance officers would justly have been consigned to the waste-paper basket. It is incumbent upon General Morgan, therefore, to show that the new ordnance service which he proposes would be, or even ought to be, more anxious or prompt to increase the "direct interest" of artillery officers in making suggestions.

The statement that "nearly every change for the better must of necessity be due to recommendations of officers in whose hands the material has been placed" is another of those ill-considered, sweeping statements which lose their whole force and relevancy upon examination. The very fact that neither in the past nor in the present have any but very few and meagre recommendations ever come from the artillery respecting changes in their material, is a sufficient answer. It is true that new patterns sent into service by the Ordnance Department are condemned after trial, but it is very rarely that the report condemning them contains a recommendation of any specific modification. The great majority of the alterations which have been made were made at arsenals or at the instance of private inventors, a class whose relations to the Ordnance Department will be more fully discussed hereafter. In view of the facts of the case, therefore (and we have weighed well the foregoing assertion), the proposition in question becomes a *non sequitur*, for the necessity spoken of is opposed to the facts as they stand, and therefore cannot exist.

To the remarks respecting the necessity of a practical knowledge as well as theoretical of the adaptation of material to service, we most gladly assent. But we have some objections to make against their implication, which seems to be that ordnance officers are very deficient in this kind of practical knowledge. It is conceded that the artillery officer is often brought into ranges of duty where an ordnance officer is seldom sent, and acquires experiences which the latter never does. But on the other hand, these experiences are generally such as an ordnance officer does not need to know. He is required, among other things, to furnish material for the artillery, and there his relations to that arm terminate. If he knows the suitability of his materials to their respective purposes, he knows all that the artillery can teach him about his profession. As a rule, ordnance officers are not defective in this knowledge. The practical working of materials is generally known to them very speedily if it is defective, and the causes of failure with it; and thus they become acquainted with so much of the practical part of the artillery service as is essential. Nor is this a capricious, picked-up knowledge, for the Ordnance Department becomes the ultimate receptacle of the whole experience of the Army in the use of its material, and covers a wide range—indeed, nearly the whole range—of successes and failures by its survey.

So far is this separation from being an "unnatural one," that it is the natural one. It has its antecedents and justification in every trade and ramification of labor. Does a spinner deem it necessary to build his own cards, mules, and looms; or must the machine-builder be also a spinner, in order to build good machinery? Must a tool-maker also make his steel, or is the steel-maker disqualified because he does not manufacture tools? No; these trades are separate; and who thinks of calling this division of labor unnatural? This argument of the lack of practical knowledge is specious; for just as the necessities of the machinist and steel-maker compel them to acquire, if not a thorough and complete knowledge of every trade in which their wares are consumed, at least all the practical knowledge which is necessary to their purposes, so is the ordnance officer compelled to know those practical aspects of artillery service which are essential to the requirements of his position. He feels this and recognizes it. As a rule, he meets these requirements with commendable thoroughness, and the artillery can teach him little or nothing even of the practical things he needs to know.

But this is a repulsive subject; it cannot be argued without egotism, and we gladly dismiss it, with the observation that we agree with General Morgan's views of the necessity of thorough practical knowledge of the artillery service, and fully believe that all good ordnance officers strive earnestly to attain it.

The General treats contemptuously the idea that the infantry and cavalry have claims at all comparable to those of the artillery to the privilege of consolidation. Again we feel called upon to deal rigorously with reckless, inconsiderate assertions. He states, hyperbolically of course, that the few arms and equipments used by the cavalry and infantry are to those required by the artillery as 1 to 1,000. Of course he will concede the hyperbole, but will he be prepared to learn that his statement is not only incorrect, but is quite the reverse of truth? We propose to show that the supply of infantry stores, both in time of war and in peace, exceeds in value, complexity, and general quantity that of the artillery. As between the professional and scientific questions involved there is little to choose, whether in respect to difficulty or intricacy. As to the relative importance of the two, although a zealous artillery officer may disagree with us,



we assign the larger interest most emphatically to the infantry. (We interpose here, that if he includes in the artillery supply the possible guns which we hope may some day thoroughly arm our seacoast, the table would of course for the future turn in his favor. But this is as yet an uncertain subject, and one which seems to be fated to indefinite postponement by influences beyond the reach of either branch. We speak only of the past, the present, and the probable immediate future.)

From 1861 to 1865, from the beginning to the end of the late war, the purchases of small arms alone for the infantry, from contractors or in open market, may be approximately set down at \$35,000,000. This does not cover pistols, carbines, sabres, nor ammunition. The purchases of cannon and projectiles amounted to about \$18,000,000. Of the purchases of raw materials, harness, accoutrements, gunpowder, lead, gun-carriages, tools and stores, there is no tabulated account at our command; but we think that no arsenal commander will, in the absence of absolute data, hesitate to assert his belief that those destined for infantry use exceeded in value those destined for the artillery; and if the equipments of the cavalry thus purchased be added to those of the infantry, the artillery would, in respect of value, stand nowhere. The same preponderance is seen when we examine the work done at arsenals and the armory. In a word, the values of stores issued to the two arms respectively will probably stand in the aggregate not less than two to one in favor of the infantry. If we take issues since the close of the war, they will stand more than ten to one in favor of the infantry, and the artillery will stand below the cavalry, and there is every likelihood that it will be nearly as disproportionate for years to come. I regret that the hasty preparation of this article does not admit of greater accuracy, and though these statements are given mainly as impressions, yet they are offered with considerable confidence that they are not very wide of the truth. At least they are near enough not to mislead in the general impression they are intended to make.

Look now at the variety of stores. If we take the outfit of a battery or a fort, we shall of course find a larger variety of classifiable articles than in the equipment of an infantry regiment. In that sense the variety of the former is of course much greater. But it must be remembered that these articles are for the most part permanent in their patterns and dimensions, or at best change but slowly. The variety we have in mind is that arising from improvement, the necessity of change. It is true that important questions respecting the best mode of constructing and using cannon remain to be settled. These are unquestionably the most splendid and attractive problems which our profession affords; and their difficulty corresponds to their other aspects. But circumstances have, within ten years, forced forward with even greater rapidity the questions respecting the armament of infantry. The number and complexity of these is greater by far than those relating to artillery. The number of inventions relating to small arms, to metallic ammunition, and to accoutrements, is something incredible, and, whether good or bad, must come up for hearing and decision. Now it will never do to treat cavalierly or contemptuously a new idea, because it relates to so small a thing as a cam latch, an ejector spring, a wrinkle in a cartridge shell, or a cannelure of a bullet. The value of them is not proportioned to their avoirdupois, and when we speak of them in connection with the appurtenances of colossal guns we are by no means making a ridiculous comparison. The questions concerning them are the most difficult the Ordnance Department is called upon to settle. This difficulty arises from the vast number of inventions relating to every part of an arm and its ammunition. The differences in their merits are often slight, or even inappreciable, so that perplexity arises more from the difficulty of determining relative than absolute merits. Hence the assertion, that in variety and complexity the questions relating to infantry material exceed those relating to artillery.

As to the relative importance of good arms and materials to artillery on the one hand, and infantry on the other, it is needless to argue. It will be sufficient to say that to each of them this importance is supreme, and to us it is equal in both to all intents and purposes, because we desire to achieve in both the best possible results. Let those who are interested in a discrimination make one for themselves. For our part we shall shrink such an invidious task.

But the General asserts that his reasoning is not based on the relative importance of the artillery in its relations to ordnance service, but upon objections to the present organization as contracting the scope and hampering the ambition of his corps. We can go no further in this discussion until we have a definite understanding of what we are to argue about. General Morgan complains of a restriction upon the power or opportunity of artillery officers to develop the higher elements of their profession. He asserts that the cause is its present separation from the ordnance, and he proposes to remove the barrier—or, as is vaguely said by some, to “consolidate.” Now in what manner does he propose to do it? What is to be the basis of consolidation? He has quietly dropped this question, though it is all-important. We utterly decline to “fire into the bushes.” We demand something to shoot at; and if the General refuses to set up the target, we must even do it ourselves. We shall do our best to guess his meaning, and shall hold him responsible if we guess wrong.

Does he mean by consolidation the abolition of the present Ordnance Department, turning its present officers out to grass, and the relegation of its duties to the artillery? Probably not. Does he mean abolishing its organization, and attaching its officers (excepting the chief) to artillery regiments as supernumeraries or otherwise, and a new distribution of its duties among officers selected from the combined corps? Perhaps he does. Does he mean a new form of organization, in which there shall be two branches under one chief, the artillery being organized as at present, and the ordnance a corps of staff artillery officers, transferred to that service by the chief, and transferable to the artillery at his

pleasure? We incline from certain hints in his pamphlet to the belief that this conjecture is not far from the truth; for he asks, “What reasonable objection can be urged against a plan of reorganization or union, which would enable a chief of ordnance and artillery to avail himself of the experience or aptitude of such artillery officers as might be useful in the Bureau of Construction, and to transfer to the line or other duties from time to time those ordnance officers who do not excel in the discharge of the special duties of their positions?”

We think the chief might have and ought to have very serious objections. If he entertained a due regard for the efficiency of the artillery, he would never consent to rob it of the best officers it contains, and use it as a Botany Bay for the dead wood he might find in the Ordnance Corps. Is this the way General Morgan proposes to benefit the artillery—by depriving it of its best material and substituting the fag end of the ordnance? What benefit is to accrue to their comrades by a few officers of ability leaving their regiments and taking up their abode at arsenals? Nothing whatever—not even their vacant places. This eagerness to get hold of ordnance duties merely means that some officers of the line like those duties better than their own, and show their love for the artillery service by doing their best to get out of it.

But let us scrutinize more closely what is demanded by these gentlemen, and see how meaningless their reasons become. Those functions of the supply and use of material in which they have any possible interest may be divided into three classes:

1. Construction and supply.
2. Experiments.
3. Active service.

The first function is at present vested in the Ordnance Department alone. The second is a common function, which may belong to both, though it must be said that some experiments, relating to questions of construction purely, are more properly the function of the ordnance. The third is the sole property of the artillery. The artillery then possess the third entirely, and as much of the second as belongs to their service if they choose to take it. General Morgan claims for them, in addition, the whole of the first; the reason he alleges being the benefit of the service in general and the artillery in particular. But we shall not permit him to employ his terms so loosely. Let us reduce his terms to their elements; let us bring out their exact significance, and see how beggarly are their contents. When he speaks of the artillery having charge of the construction and experimental development of its material, we find, upon analysis, that the term artillery means in this connection a very few officers. The construction of cannon, on the largest war basis, would require one officer of about Rodman's calibre, if he is to be obtained, and one assistant. The manufacture of gun carriages and equipments at Watertown or elsewhere might require three more; the manufacture of powder one; the inspection of shot and shell, and the fixing of ammunition, might require four more; in all ten officers. The present organization of the artillery includes 285 officers. In an extreme case, then, by throwing overboard the present ordnance officers so assignable, 10 artillery officers out of 285, two out of each regiment, might be transferred to active duties of construction. We will be very liberal, though. We will allow that twice as many young lieutenants might be also transferred to learn the trade as young ordnance officers learn it, filling the positions of work without responsibility until they are fitted for real trusts. We will allow thirty in all as eligible for ordnance duty of construction, or six from each regiment. Now, pray tell us, what is to become of the remaining 255? Is it not a gross abuse of language to talk about the artillery assuming ordnance duties, when only a tenth part of the artillery can possibly be meant?

But we dispute his right even to this restricted use of the term. He has utterly ignored or overlooked the very important fact that as soon as such a transfer is made, the changeling ceases to be an artillery officer. We cannot for an instant suppose him to be so grossly erroneous in his ideas of the position he aspires to, as to imagine that he can do both duties at once. He must also concede, having once been installed in duties of construction, the utter impropriety of ever going back to mere artillery routine, and thus throwing away the valuable experience he may have acquired in his new position. We are not going to allow the ordnance service to be degraded from the present high position it holds as the instrument of a grand and all-important service to the Government, into a mere convenience or even school for artillery officers. Its functions are too broad and high, too practical and vital, to be thus trifled with. He who assumes them must be prepared, once and for all, to throw off everything else, and bend every energy of his intellect and ambition to them alone. They are an end in themselves, not a means to the education of incumbents. He who comes within their range must come prepared to stay, and not as a sojourner. Hence it is that a transfer must divest an officer of his former profession and give him a new one. Now, how has this benefited the artillery? Has it not rather culled a few of the best officers in it, translated them once and for all to a new sphere, leaving the rest behind with envious eyes, watching their departure into glory?

We shall in another article proceed to show that the proposed measure is in no respect better calculated to promote the efficiency of the ordnance than it is that of the artillery. We have examined and discussed in the foregoing all the arguments advanced by General Morgan in favor of the proposed measure, and we think we have shown them to be founded upon utter misconceptions. We next propose to exhibit the reasons against the measure.

C. E. DUTTON, First Lieutenant of Ordnance.

COLONEL Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, formerly of Baltimore, and late of Paris, was married at Newport last Thursday, September 7, to Mrs. Caroline Leroy Appleton Edgar, granddaughter of Daniel Webster.

#### TESTING GUN-COTTON.

In the examination into the cause of the explosion of a gun-cotton manufactory in England, the following account of the method employed in testing was given in testimony:

The first test was for solubility, or to determine the relative strength of the samples. Twenty grains of the samples were placed in a wide glass tube closed at one end, and three fluid ounces were poured upon them of a mixture of sulphuric ether. The mixture was composed of two parts of the purest sulphuric ether and one part of absolute alcohol. The mixture was corked, well shaken up, and set aside. In that manner it stood over night. The next morning the contents of the tube were emptied out upon a weighed piece of muslin laid across a glass funnel; this was then folded up, placed between several layers of blotting paper, and well compressed in a screw letter press. In a few minutes the press was opened, the muslin taken out, and the pulp carefully scraped off and put back into the tube. One ounce of the same mixture as before was poured upon it, the tube was again corked up, well shaken, and set aside for three hours. It was then poured out upon the same piece of muslin as before, folded up and returned to the press, taken out of it and placed in a water oven till all the ether had evaporated. It was then left exposed to the air for an hour, and was weighed. The loss showed the amount of soluble gun-cotton present. The larger the loss the weaker the gun-cotton. The samples in which the loss amounted to 13 per cent. and under were registered as “B. C.,” and were sent to the government. The government fixed the limit at 15 per cent., but the company went 2 per cent. lower. Where the loss exceeded 13 per cent., the sample was registered as a regulation one, and was reserved for mining and sporting purposes. The loss of the samples rarely exceeded 14 per cent. The heat test, which decided whether the poachers had been perfectly washed, was divided into three distinct processes. Two of them were performed in an oil bath made of sheet copper of a certain size and shape. Nine samples often came up daily, and there were little card trays numbered from one to nine. If sample No. 6 came up, it was taken up, set in a tray marked No. 6, and placed on the top of the oven. When a sample was thoroughly dry, it was set aside to cool to the common temperature of the air for one hour. At the end of that time some perfectly clean test-tubes were got ready; they were six inches long, and 11-16ths of an inch in diameter. Two of these were fixed into two of the holes in the oil bath, a small portion of the sample of the gun-cotton was dropped into each of the two tubes, and the oil bath was then heated by gas to a temperature of 310. The tubes were then drawn out, rapidly wiped, and looked into. The moment the slightest yellow vapor was seen in the tubes, the fuming point and its temperature were entered. If the fuming point was below 325, the sample was condemned for the present, and ordered to be re-washed. If it passed the government point of 320, a small bit of card was laid on the top of each tube, the tubes were put into the bath, and the thermometer was again watched. When the thermometer got up to 340 an explosion was to be expected, and the precise degree of the thermometer was registered when the explosion happened. As soon as the explosion happened, another small quantity of cotton was dropped into the tubes. Each sample had a double trial, and there were three or four grains in each tube at once. When the explosion happened, it would be sometimes as sharp as a pistol shot. When the first explosion had occurred a fresh portion of the gun-cotton was dropped into the empty tube from the same samples, and it always exploded a few degrees higher than the first time. Any sample exploding at or under 350 degrees would be condemned. The second explosion was expected to be at least eight degrees higher than the first. The more rapidly gun-cotton was heated the greater the temperature it could bear. The standard for the first explosion was fixed by the Woolwich Regulations at 343 degrees, but Mr. Eustace Prentice fixed it at 350 for the purpose of greater security. The explosions were very frequently at 360, and even above that.

An article in the *Moscow Gazette* of the 6th instant compares the marine fortifications of Germany with those of Russia. The writer points out the great importance for the German navy of the harbors of Wilhelmshaven and Kiel, and shows that when the projected canal between those harbors is completed Germany will be able suddenly to combine her North Sea fleet with that of the Baltic and throw the whole of her naval force into either of these seas. Another advantage possessed by Germany is, that she does not require any ships of war to protect her principal harbors, such as Königsberg, Danzig, Stettin, Rostock, Lübeck, Hamburg and Bremen, as they are sufficiently protected against the attack of an enemy by their geographical position and a few coast batteries. In Russia, on the other hand, the capital itself is exposed to the attack of a hostile fleet. “St. Petersburg was built in such a hurry that the most important precautionary measures were disregarded; it was placed close to the sea, although there was nothing to prevent its being built ten or twenty versts higher up on the banks of the Neva. The first of the disadvantages caused by this mistake was the exposure of the city to inundations which might cause losses of many hundred millions of roubles. The second disadvantage—that of being defenceless against a hostile fleet—is even more important; it compels Russia to keep a strong fleet in the Baltic, merely for the protection of the capital. . . . And even this fleet, which cost sixteen millions, does not afford complete security, for it would not be able to resist the attack of a first-rate power.” The article concludes by urging the Government to strengthen the fortifications of Cronstadt, which, it says, are old-fashioned and no longer capable of resisting modern artillery, and to build a huge earth-work five versts long on the coast south of the capital.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—The committee on organization of this Association, as announced in our last issue, met at the office of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL on Monday afternoon. Colonel Mason of the Thirteenth Infantry presided. The sub-committee appointed presented a constitution and by-laws for the action of the members of the general committee. These were read by Colonel Church, and after some little general discussion, and the articles having been read section by section, were adopted with a few verbal amendments. The reading of the above-mentioned papers and the discussion on the same occupied considerable time. It was, therefore, moved that the committee hold another session to enable them to complete their work. The meeting therefore adjourned, and met again at the armory of the Seventh regiment on Thursday at 8 P. M. The details of the last meeting it is impossible for us to give in this issue.

The National Rifle Association is now an established fact, and the enthusiasm of those who have thus far interested themselves in its organization has in no wise abated. The Association will be national in its character as its name implies, regularly incorporated, and governed in accordance with the established rules of organizations of its kind. It will speedily proceed to the practical realization of the object of its formation.

**FALL INSPECTIONS.**—We regret to see a contemporary advocating the introduction of evening inspections. Experience teaches that in order to render regimental and company inspections efficacious, in so far as regards the ascertaining of the real number of officers and men present, it is far preferable to conduct said muster or inspection under the auspices of "broad daylight." The commanders of regiments and batteries in the U. S. Army invariably follow this practice, and as the Regular Army is held to be the proper criterion in a matter of this kind, it becomes a query as to what can be the idea of the party or parties advocating the substitution of "chandeliers and candelabra" for the more effective and to all appearances reasonable "light of day." The great objection we would offer to any such innovation upon the present time-honored custom exists in the fact that regiments or battalions when seen at night present a denser appearance as regards numerical strength than the same number of men when seen under other than ordinary circumstances. The reviewing officer necessarily is obliged to inspect one company at a time, and, being well up in his multiplication table, naturally enough only counts off the real number present. So far so good. A company, we will say, holds the right of the line, and contains eighteen or twenty files front; the eighteen or twenty files are counted off, and a company is brought to an "order arms" and "parade rest." The reviewing officer then proceeds to Company B; as is very natural on occasions of this kind, the company officers are desirous of having their commands swelled, by additions from other companies, to the maximum height; and as Private Jones of Company A has friends in Company B, he very good-naturedly consents to "drop in line," thereby assisting Company B to "show up" well-filled ranks. The good-natured inspecting officer, anxious to get through his "arduous task," is not over-particularly engaged in the scrutinization of Company B's members, and fails to recognize the "physiognomy" of Privates Jones, Smith, and Robinson, whom he has already counted.

We would advise by all means the retention of the present *modus operandi* as being the most beneficial, efficacious, and direct manner of arriving at the real figures.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.**—This regiment will hold its first annual excursion on the 9th of October. Each company will be provided with targets, and will contend for their own prizes. The three best marksmen will receive special prizes presented by Colonel Burger, the Board of Officers, and the other by the regiment.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—Another attempt at a permanent organization of the Veteran Corps of this command will take place at the regimental armory on Monday evening next. We trust this movement will meet with desired success, and it is an apparent lack of the proper spirit only that has prevented this command having long since a well-established veteran organization.

The competition for the recruiting prizes, amounting to the sums of \$200 and \$100, offered by the field of the regiment in May last, is most active among the companies. These sums will be given to the two companies showing the largest recruited strength between the time of the offer in May last and November next. This generous action of the Twelfth field has given an extraordinary impetus to recruiting in the regiment, and next month it expects to muster many more men than exhibited at the last annual inspection.

The new stand of colors purchased some time since by Colonel Ward will be formally presented in a short time. The unveiling of a life-size portrait of the regimental commander, the gift of the Board of Officers, will likewise take place at the regimental armory in a few weeks. The Twelfth since the occupation of its new quarters has shown more than usual progress, and its officers are a perfect unit in every matter that appertains to the interest and general advancement of the regiment.

As noticed elsewhere, this command participated in the military exercises of the Forty-seventh at Brooklyn, E. D., on Wednesday evening last.

**DO ENCAMPMENTS PAY?**—In a recent article we referred to the fact that the Adjutant and Inspector-General of New York State considered that the benefits of encampments were not sufficient to compensate for the expense incurred, and endeavored to show the utter fallacy of this opinion, and to convince our State authorities of the real benefits of these encampments and their necessity as schools of instruction for the National Guardsmen, citing the examples of neighboring States to prove our position. We have taken pains to investigate this matter further by visitation and letter, and our convictions, as expressed in that article, are still further confirmed. The encampments of the troops of Massachusetts volunteer militia concluded on the 2d inst. with that of the Third brigade. They have been a complete success, and thoroughly vindicated our commendation of encampments. To show this we quote at length from a private letter we have received from an officer of the Third brigade M. V. M. The encampment was at Sterling Junction, Massachusetts. He says:

It is so late that I will not give you a detailed account of our tour of duty at "Camp Cunningham" (named in honor of the veteran soldier and efficient officer, General James A. Cunningham, the present Adjutant-General of Massachusetts), but will endeavor to give some general information relating thereto.

It has been pronounced by those who ought to know to have been one of the most successful encampments which the militia of this State have ever held. The discipline was superior, and the rank and file seemed to vie with the officers in attempting to maintain the most perfect order, and in the performance of every duty. The camp was laid out as nearly in accordance with "Regulations" as the nature of the ground would allow, and it is considered the best location for an encampment which the State affords.

It was remarked by a number of old Army officers that the State should not fail to purchase this ground, now the most available place in the State devoted to the use of the militia. The subject will undoubtedly soon be brought up in the Legislature.

The plan of detaching an entire company for guard duty at one time was adopted, instead of calling upon each company every day for a few men. It proved to be an excellent idea, the men taking more pride in performing the duty well, knowing that their company organizations would be held responsible, and in all cases being in charge of their own officers.

The order of drills was as follows: Company drills from 6:15 to 7:15 A. M.; battalion drills from 10 to 12 A. M.; and brigade drill from 2 to 4 P. M.; brigade dress parade at 5; and battalion dress parade at 5:30. A regular routine was of course prescribed in published orders, a copy of which I will send you. The drills were all remarkably good, and showed a state of proficiency which could not help being satisfactory to the brigade commander.

At inspections the arms, uniforms, and equipments were found in excellent condition. The quarters were kept in good order, although there were cases of neglect which would be improved on another occasion. The men are apt to pay too little attention in some cases to the condition of their quarters, by devoting all spare time to their equipments, etc.

On the Wednesday before striking tents the troops were reviewed by Major-General Butler, commander of our division, and on Thursday by his Excellency William Claflin, Governor and Commander-in-Chief. Both reviews were pronounced very fine, and, with the exception of a few little details, they undoubtedly were so.

Had the editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL been present (I assure you his absence was very much regretted), he would have noticed that some of the officers in saluting the reviewing officer failed to turn their eyes in his direction, although as a general thing the salutes were good. The marching was excellent, and was said to surpass that of either of the other brigades this fall.

The battery of artillery (Fifth of Worcester, Captain Rice) was in very good condition, and showed great proficiency in drill. It is to be hoped that the breech-loader will soon be substituted for the muzzle-loader, and the board authorized by the Legislature at its last session is busy at work examining the various patterns. The Remington is believed to be the favorite.

The brigade broke camp at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, 2d inst.

I am of the opinion that the most noticeable feature of the week was the manner in which the guard duty was performed. It has been the most difficult part of camp instruction heretofore, and it is a great satisfaction to see such a vast improvement in this important duty.

There can be no question, I think, that the benefits derived from our fall encampments fully repay for the expense incurred. The State furnishes all the canvas, with poles and pins, necessary, and the organizations furnish all other camp equipment. The brigade commander is obliged to furnish the ground for the camp, which is radically wrong. The State should not only own their own camp ground, but they should transport the troops to and from home. A soldier ought not to be obliged to pay his entire wages and often more, as is now the case, in getting to and from the camp, and furnishing his subsistence while there. These brigade encampments probably cost the State on the average for five days' duty \$25,000, and it may well be claimed that this is a liberal allowance, but it is money well expended.

Your excellent articles on rifle practice are attracting a great deal of attention, and an interest is being excited here which I hope will result in forming an association similar to the one organizing in New York. It is something which our National Guard have sadly neglected heretofore. I have no doubt, however, that there will be a decided improvement in this direction as soon as the troops are armed with the breech-loading rifle, for they feel now that there is no object in perfecting themselves in the use of a weapon which, in case they were called into service, would be thrown aside at once as almost useless.

Adjutant-General Cunningham and Captain Wm. E. Wilson of the Governor's staff were present during most of the week, and were welcomed, as they always are by the militia of our State wherever they meet, as strict disciplinarians and good officers when on duty, and as princes of good fellows on all occasions.

**THE FORTY-SEVENTH IN ITS GLORY.**—For some time past the well-known Forty-seventh Infantry, Colonel David E. Austen, of Brooklyn, E. D., has been actively preparing an extensive welcome for its comrades of the Second Connecticut, as represented by its "crack" company, the New Haven Grays, and the Twelfth New York. The culminating point was reached on Wednesday evening last, when one of the grandest welcomes ever extended by any one organization to another took place in the Burgh. It was without exception one of the most glorious and generous receptions that have occurred in this vicinity within our recollection; and its character and excellent management call forth the highest and most generous praise for the favorite command of the Second division of the New York State National Guard.

The New Haven Grays, under command of Captain Hendricks, reached New York in the steamer *Elm City*, Captain Peck, of the New Haven line, about 4:30 P. M. on Wednesday. The Grays numbered some sixty muskets, and were accompanied by an excellent band and drum corps, a numerous veteran corps, and officers of the State service, and New Haven City Council. These latter comprised Colonel S. R. Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel Barrio, Major Tucker, Adjutant Baker, Quartermaster Bradley, Paymaster Kimberly, Surgeon Bissell, Assistant Surgeon Riley, Chaplain Siebke, Colonel Bradley, Colonel Basserman, Captain Sloat, Major Osborn, and about thirty others, mostly ex-officers of the company, under command of Colonel Bradley. The following members of Governor Jewell's staff were present: Adjutant-General Merwin, Quartermaster-General Dickinson, Assistant Adjutant-General Fox, Assistant Quartermaster-General Blakeslee—all veteran "Grays"—Mayor Lewis of New Haven, President of Council Stoddard, Aldermen Scott, Morse, Bunnell, Councilmen Brown, Atwater, Adriance, and others. At the time of the arrival of the visitors, the weather was anything but propitious, and there was every indication of a stormy evening. The threatening clouds, however, shortly after sunset scattered, and left a clear and beautiful night overhead, but an unpleasant and muddy condition under foot. The Grays on arrival were received by a large delegation of citizens and officers, a battalion of the Forty-seventh, comprising Companies A, B, and C, under command of Captain Doughty, being in waiting as a proper escort. The battalion numbered about one hundred and fifty muskets, and was accompanied by the regimental band and drum corps. After the usual military courtesies the visitors were conducted by the most direct route to the armory of the Forty-seventh, Brooklyn, E. D. There a collation awaited their attention, after which the New Haven guests were escorted in groups over the city. The visitors were everywhere received with unbounded enthusiasm, and the speech of welcome by Captain Doughty at the armory was most fitting, as also was the response of the commandant of the Grays. In the evening the two battalions again assembled and marched to the foot of Broadway, and there properly received the Twelfth New York, who arrived about 9 o'clock, in the steamer *Fort Lee*. The three organizations then joined, and formed in the following order:

Police.

Forty-seventh Regiment, Colonel D. E. Austen.  
Veteran Association, Forty-seventh Regiment, Colonel J. V. Meserole.

Veteran Association of the New Haven Grays, Captain Sloat.

Guests of the New Haven Grays.

New Haven Grays, Captain Hendricks.

Twelfth Regiment N. G. S. N. Y., Colonel Ward.

All the battalions were headed by excellent bands and drum corps; the whole column had a very imposing effect, the rays of a calcium light in the immediate rear thereof adding not a little to the general brilliancy of the moving column. The members were all in full dress, and the attractive addition of the white cross of the Forty-seventh, just adopted, won many compliments. On Bedford avenue (the Fifth avenue of the Burgh) just opposite Clymer street, was erected a stand for Mayor Kalbfleisch and the city authorities of Brooklyn and New Haven, to whom was extended the compliment of a marching salute. As they passed the stand they made a really imposing display. The Forty-seventh paraded eight commands of fourteen files, and marched with remarkably well-closed ranks, excellent alignment, and company distance. The Grays, in two platoons, followed with almost lockstep, good fronts, and great steadiness. The Twelfth parading eight commands, of fourteen files, like the preceding battalions, won loud applause by its steady marching and excellent alignment; its ranks, however, were not as well closed, or its company distance equal to the Forty-seventh, which command carried off the palm on this occasion at least. The line of march, some fifty blocks in extent, was very trying to the New Haven and New York troops, as Williamsburg is not remarkable for its well-paved streets; the Forty-seventh, however, from long practice, perhaps, succeeded better in its marching over these uneven and muddy surfaces. Meanwhile Major Rogers, the chairman of the committee of arrangements, and Lieutenant Brewer, took charge of the city officials, to whom was paid every and marked courtesy, until the march was completed, which occurred shortly after 10 o'clock. The three battalions were then most sumptuously entertained in the main drill-room of the armory, where speeches, etc., were in order for some hour or more. During the interval the officers and special guests were handsomely entertained at a "side show" in Freeman's Hall adjoining the armory. In fact, every matter was on the most liberal scale, and the enthusiasm of



the citizens and courtesies of the soldiers was never before equalled hereabouts. The illumination was unlimited, as also was the display of fireworks. Shortly after midnight the Twelfth was escorted to the *Fort Lee*, located at the foot of South Sixth street, and departed for home, amid the cheers and good wishes of its comrades of the Forty-seventh. On Thursday the New Haven visitors and the Forty-seventh excursioned to Rockaway, L. I., indulged in a banquet, and had a good time generally. On returning, the visitors were escorted and delivered over to the generous hands of the Twenty-second New York, who took them in charge, and after handsomely entertaining them at the armory, escorted them to the New Haven boat when they left for home. The reception was of the most generous nature, throughout, and we will endeavor to give further details thereof in our next issue.

**VARIOUS ITEMS.**—The Twenty-third regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its organization by a reunion at Salem, Mass., on the 28th inst. The meeting will be held in the Grand Army Hall. The exercises of the day will consist of a meeting, at 10:30 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of perfecting a permanent organization; after which a dinner will be served. It is the desire of the committee of arrangements that all who expect to be present will notify immediately Captain I. H. Edgett, 49 Broad street, Boston. Company B, First Infantry (Hawkins Zouaves), assemble at the armory in full uniform, with fatigue cap fastened to the left hip button, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., for company parade and target practice. Roll call at 8:30 o'clock A. M. Captain August Rassiga is in command of this company. Separate Troop Cavalry, First division, Captain Karl Klein, proceeded (mounted) to Bellevue Garden on Wednesday last for target practice and general festivity, this being its twenty-third annual gathering for this purpose. The day was unpleasant, yet it did not detract to a great extent the general enjoyment of this fine body of cavalry. Battery C, First division, Captain Schilling, on Monday last spent the day at East New York in artillery practice at target. After the practice, which was very inferior the members and friends enjoyed a feast of soul and reason at an adjoining hotel. Company G, First Infantry, Captain Frank Clark, inaugurated the drill season on Tuesday evening last by a reception and hop given at the regimental armory. The turnout of the members and friends of the company was large, and the occasion very happy in its conception and general management. What has become of the Ninth regiment Wyatt fund, and what are the committee doing? There were several other efforts for the relief of killed and disabled National Guardsmen in the late riot started just after the unfortunate event, but for some time past we have not heard anything as to these movements. We do not know positively of any pressing necessity of a fund of the character mentioned, but at the same time it is to be presumed that such a fund would not have been started unless necessity pointed in that direction. In any event, it is a reflection on those concerned to let this matter rest any longer. If all the money collected has been disbursed, it is no more than right that its amount and disposition should be made public. Company B, Sixty-ninth Infantry, Captain Jerome J. Collins commanding, proceeded on Monday last by South Side Railroad on an excursion to Rockaway, L. I., and there indulged in a rifle match. A court of inquiry, consisting of Brigadier-General Ward, commanding First brigade, has been instituted by orders from First division headquarters to investigate charges preferred by Colonel Conkling, commanding Second brigade, against Colonel Funk, Eleventh Infantry (now commanding Second brigade), Colonel Bendix, Fifth Infantry, and Colonel Krehbiel, Ninety-sixth Infantry, for failing to make the necessary consolidated reports, etc., to headquarters, as required by the regulations. From this, we surmise, the regimental headquarters routine duties of these regiments are not in good "running" order. It is therefore sometimes necessary that charges like the above should be preferred, if only to spur these gentlemen to more efficiency in these matters. If inferior officers neglect their duties it reflects on their superiors; therefore, to preserve their reputation, it becomes necessary that they, the inferiors, be made to perform their duty, or else quit the service. It is announced that General Headquarters has forbidden the wearing of gold-laced body-belts and baldrics on the part of field and staff officers, and has ordered to be substituted instead the regular black leather belts. If this is true it will create quite an agitation among these gaily equipped officers. But the question arises, What has General Headquarters to do with these matters? It strikes us as a ridiculous announcement, and we presume for that reason was incorporated in General Orders No.—, which in accordance with the usual wording of same "Will not be published." We admit, however, that our National Guard officers wear any number of gaudy trappings, that the regulations do not strictly prescribe; these, nevertheless, are portions of the full dress uniforms adopted, and are only worn on gala occasions. There is therefore no real necessity for the interference of General Headquarters. A despatch from Newport thus pays a handsome tribute to a musical member of the Ninth Infantry: "As a lady and gentleman were crossing the track at the depot here the tender of the Boston Express train struck the lady and knocked her under the wheels. Louis Alexander, a member of the Ninth New York regiment band, seeing the lady in danger, at the risk of his life rescued her. The wheels of the tender passed over the

lady's foot crushing it badly.".....For some unaccountable reason the National Guard changes have not come to hand. A conjoint excursion and rifle practice will be indulged in on Tuesday next at Funk's Union Park by Companies B and F, First Infantry. Some matters of special interest have been crowded out of this issue. A cadet corps has been formed in the Williamsburgh Turner Society, under the instruction of Lieutenant-Colonel John Rueger of the Thirty-second regiment. Dr. Chas. Ehrman is quartermaster. Company B, Thirty-second regiment, will shortly elect a captain to fill the vacancy occasioned by the dismissal of George Giehl by brigade court-martial. On October 23 the Thirty-second regiment drum corps will hold its second annual ball. October 10th is announced as the day for the reception of Grand Duke Alexis.

#### OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

**ALBANY.**—*The Tenth's Troubles.*—For some little time past the Tenth Infantry has been considerably agitated over its recent choice of commandant, in place of Colonel Farnsworth, resigned. It appears that at an election held last month in this command Lieutenant-Colonel Benton, by a vote of sixteen out of twenty-six ballots cast, was elected colonel, and properly recognized and accepted as such by the officers. After the election, however, it was announced that the name of a former favorite candidate, General Townsend (brother of the present Adjutant-General), who at the time was supposed to have declined the nomination, was brought forward, he having offered to accept the position if elected by a unanimous vote of the officers. The letter making this announcement, it is alleged, was withheld by Colonel Benton or some one of the officers interested in his (Benton's) election, and did not come to light until the whole matter had been definitely settled by the selection of a commandant. This as a matter of course created some little excitement in the regiment, and immediate measures were taken to render the election null and void by an appeal to Brigadier General Woodhull, the Ninth brigade commander, made by one of the officers of the regiment, who claims not to have been properly served with a notice of the election. The appeal has been denied by General Woodhull on what we think very correct grounds, as the appeal, from what we can glean from the published circular reviewing the case, was made on a very frivolous pretext. We do not pretend to have a full knowledge of this matter, and some of the assertions made above may not be strictly correct. We, however, consider Colonel Benton legally elected, and do not think any appeal similar to the one presented can ever disturb him. If General Townsend was the favorite candidate for the colonelcy of the Tenth, and Colonel Benton or any other officer withheld any document announcing his acceptance of the same for the purpose of furthering his or their interest, a breach of trust was committed unworthy of any officer, and we hope for the interest of the National Guard that the allegations against Colonel Benton are groundless. The procedure of Lieutenant Nichols, the officer who made the appeal in this matter, cannot help matters in the least, for any one can see that this appeal would never have been thought of had not these accusations been made against Colonel Benton. If Colonel Benton is innocent of the charge heretofore alluded to, and we trust he is, none of the methods instituted by Lieutenant Nichols can render the election void. If he is guilty, there are certain modes of removing him well known to every intelligent National Guard officer. Colonel Benton anyhow was properly entitled to the position; and if he has proved a competent officer in the past, the officers had no justifiable right to select any outside officer.

**NEW JERSEY.**—*Dover Encampment.*—The Second Infantry, Colonel Allen, closed its brief encampment at Dover, N. J., on Saturday last. The encampment was of altogether too short duration to be of any decided benefit to the troops, who paraded in but small numbers, little over one hundred men being present at any one time. The Second, however, is only a small battalion of five companies, and has suffered loss, we understand, by a recent thorough reorganization. The men who now compose the battalion are of an excellent class, and gave evidence during this encampment of three days that they have the interest of the regiment at heart. The members have gray fatigue uniforms and a full dress similar in nearly every respect to that of the New York Twelfth. While the adoption of this full dress uniform reduced in a measure the strength of the organization, it on the other hand added better material than had heretofore existed in the regiment, and seems likely in a short time to place the Second foremost in the ranks of the New Jersey National Guard. "Camp Randolph" was located on a small space immediately at the foot of several beautifully wooded hills, about a hundred feet from the Morris and Essex Railroad, and about a quarter of a mile from the depot. It presented a somewhat cramped appearance, and it was just as well in this instance that there were but five companies, otherwise there would not have been room enough. The tents were erected with very fair regularity, the company streets cleanly, and the general appearance of the ground evidenced fair policing. A good deal of care had evidently been taken to carry out the prescribed regulations for encampments. The strength of the companies did not admit of a very extensive guard; and on Friday afternoon of last week, the day of the review, the entire guard was withdrawn so as to give the battalion a fair display. On this oc-

asion a large number of spectators were present, and, the day being delightful, the camp presented an active appearance. Governor Randolph, and Brigadier-General Plume and staff, commanding First brigade, First division, N. G. S. N. J., arrived at about 2 P. M., and were received by a salute from a small howitzer as they entered the camp. These officers were immediately conducted to Colonel Allen's headquarters tent, and there awaited the hour and preparations for the review. These were for some reason slow, and it was at least an hour after the designated time (3 P. M.) before this ceremony took place. The dress parade, which preceded the review, was very fairly conducted; the men, however, in this and the review which followed, lacked marked steadiness. The drum corps was fearfully in want of practice, and the time of the band was anything but up to the standard. There was one thing, however, in favor of this latter necessary adjunct, musically considered, and this was that it played "early and often." It played during the interval of the dress parade and review, again struck up as the Governor took his position at the reviewing color, played when the markers were posted for the change of direction, and on numerous other improper occasions, but omitted its musical strains entirely when at the dismissal the officers closed on the centre and marched forward.

At the review the Governor was accompanied by Major-General Woodward (in citizen's dress), commanding Second division N. G. S. N. Y., and Brigadier-General Plume and staff, First brigade N. G. S. N. J. The ceremony was remarkably well conducted, Colonel Allen and the adjutant performing well their part. The passage in review was commendable, and the battalion as a whole appeared really to excellent advantage. The salutes were of the usual character—good, bad, and indifferent; the band paraded erroneously in the rear of the drum corps, and the sergeant-major, the only member of the non-commissioned staff observable in position, saluted.

The ceremony over, the reviewing party inspected the camp and then the headquarters of the battalion commandant, all civilians, with the exception of course of the Governor and Major-General Woodward, being excluded from the entertainment which followed. The Governor and party soon after the review of this extensive New Jersey army of about a hundred men left for home by special train. In the evening there was an illumination of the camp, fireworks, and a concert and dancing on a boarded surface to the right of the parade ground. Evidently the members and their friends had a glorious time on that evening. The camp was broken up on the 9th, and the companies returned to Newark and adjacent towns.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**—While other States are showing remarkable activity in organizing their National Guards, there seems an apathy in this State which we regret to observe. There is hope, however, in the fact that an effort is about being made to arouse public spirit in the interests of the State troops, by the holding of a State Military Convention at Harrisburg on the 3d of next month. The following call explains somewhat the objects of this assembly:

HARRISBURG, August 28, 1871.

To the Division Commanders of the National Guard of Pennsylvania:

We, the undersigned, officers of the Fifth division P. S. N. G., believing that the interests of the service warrant such action, do hereby unite in calling upon the commanding general of each division of the National Guard to issue special orders for the holding of an election for delegates to a State Military Convention to be held at Harrisburg on Tuesday, October 3, 1871.

The basis of representation to be one delegate for every 200 enlisted men, or fraction thereof, when over 100 enlisted men.

The major-generals commanding are also requested to be present, either in person, or represented by a member of their staff.

(Signed) T. J. JORDAN, Major-General, and others of the Fifth division, and endorsed by A. L. Pearson, major-general, and others of the Eighteenth division.

This convention, if properly organized and really devoted to the study of practical questions, can accomplish much good and advance greatly the welfare of the citizen soldiery; but if, like a similar association in New York State, it forms itself into a mutual admiration society, we shall have little faith in its benefits to the National Guard of Pennsylvania. Let it give earnest attention to the subjects before it, promptly settle upon some line of practical policy, ignore "fuss and feathers," and frown upon merely personal and selfish ambitions, and it will present results of its meeting that will amply justify such an assemblage. The danger is of too much talk and too little accomplishment. The New York State Military Association, by its dilatory movements, inconsequent action, lack of unity and consistent purpose, has nullified all the good it might have done, and made itself rather an object of ridicule than respect or power. There are many officers connected with the association who are good soldiers and understand the wants of the National Guard; but their wisdom is of no avail in an assembly which fails to actually carry out even the wisest resolution adopted by it. Year after year the convention has met, generally at Albany. Many subjects of vast importance to the New York State troops have been introduced, and committees appointed to carry out desirable suggestions, and yet we have failed so far to see any really practical result of these annual meetings. The committees seem to be merely ornamental; they certainly do nothing toward carrying out the objects of their appointment. We trust the Pennsylvania Military Convention will profit by the experience of New York, and make itself a body really alive and of capacity for work and determination to produce beneficial results to the National Guard.



## FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

THE navy of Brazil is said to have never yet lost a vessel; of which it may be said that they never had many to lose.

It is stated that the number of firearms of different patterns which the disbanding of the National Guards of France will bring into the arsenals of the State is 800,000.

It is said that officers of the Italian army are travelling over French territory contiguous to Italy and studying its strategic points, that they may be prepared in case of a war with France.

It is proposed to introduce a new telegraphic service in the German army for artillery in action. Experienced artillerymen are to be posted under cover far in advance of the batteries to watch the effects of the cannonade, and report back by means of a small portable telegraphic apparatus.

THE city of Bourges is to become a military centre, and to be extensively fortified. An arsenal is to be established, and the military school at Metz is to be removed there. The question of the creation of a line of fortifications from Avallon to Chagny and Autun, is under discussion by the government.

In the recent annual prize firing for good shooting and quickness from on board the *Hercules*, the 10-inch (18-ton) guns got both the prizes, the quickest gun having fired the eight rounds at the target in 8 minutes 11 seconds. It is doubtful whether a single officer or man on board had ever seen an 18-ton gun before.

FIELD Marshal von Blumenthal and Count von Alten have arrived in London as witnesses on behalf of the German Government of the autumn manoeuvres of the British army in Berkshire. Each of the nations of Europe has, it appears, been invited to send two military officers to observe the evolutions of the troops.

NEWS was received September 7 at the British Admiralty from the crew of H. M. steam-transport *Megara*, which was recently wrecked on the desert island of St. Paul in the Indian Ocean. Eight of them were seriously ill, and the others were prostrate from exposure and want of food. The most intense desire for relief is expressed by the sufferers.

FORT Saint Julien, at Metz, is to be rechristened by its present proprietors, and will henceforth be known as Fort Moltke. The *Française* adds that the inscription under one of the bastions, "Commenced under the reign of Napoleon III., in 1867," will be continued in the German language, and will read on, "in order to beard Prussia, and was finished by Germany in 1871 for German safety and glory."

THE Paris *Débats* states that the latest information from Algeria affords no ground for expecting a speedy termination of the troubles in that colony. Although the successes obtained by the movable columns in Bougie, Setif, and Bordj bon Arreridj have led to the submission of some tribes, and the payment by them of war contributions, disorder still exists throughout the Kabyle region of the province of Constantine.

THERE is a report that one of the *Monarch's* 600 lb. projectiles struck her mizzen mast in the recent prize firing for rapidity and accuracy. This does not seem an unlikely accident, considering that there is no sure means of indicating with exactitude the points at which the masts, ropes, etc., would be struck and *Broad Arrow* says: "Cannot one of our naval inventors supply the want and insure the safety of the crew of the two forecastle guns?"

THE *Mechanics' Magazine* informs us that the Westley-Richards Arms and Ammunition Company at Birmingham claim for an American inventor (Peabody), whom they represent in this country, the patent right of some of the main features of the Martini-Henry rifle. They allege that M. Martini's "invention" is simply an infringement of this patent, and they have apprised the Government of their intention to test the validity of their claim. The matter is, we need scarcely add, exciting considerable interest among the gun-makers in Birmingham.

COUNT Louis Edouard Bouët-Willamez, vice-admiral of the French navy, died September 9, aged sixty-three years. In 1849 he published a volume, "Description Nautique des Côtes entre le Sénégal et l'Equateur," having been intrusted by Rear-Admiral Montaignies de la Roche, in 1838, with the survey of the coast of Western Africa. He was appointed rear-admiral in 1854, and took part in the Crimean expedition under Admiral Hamelin. Afterwards he was Prefect of Cherbourg and of Toulon, and attained the rank of vice-admiral in 1860. The only vice-admiral whose commission bears an earlier date is M. Fourichon, who was appointed in 1859.

THE Paris *Patrie* states upon information received from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has of late evinced the greatest anxiety to complete the reorganization of the army and the conversion of its armaments. Large orders for guns and mitrailleuses and projectiles have been given in England, America, and Belgium. Some orders have also been given to manufacturing in the French departments, but in all cases stipulation has been made for speedy delivery. Moreover, work is carried on day and night in the arsenals and dockyards at St. Petersburg, Cronstadt, and Nicolaïeff.

THE defensive works at the mouth of the Weser are to be strengthened by the erection of two new forts, one of which will be built on the Langlütjensand, about 6,000 feet further down the stream than the works now in course of construction there, while the other will be situated in the vicinity of Bremen. When these are completed, the defences of the Weser will consist of four powerful works, from which a double cross fire might be opened on a hostile fleet. As soon as the fortifications are complete the bridge which now unites the fort with the mainland will be broken down, and the former surrounded by water.

THE London *Times* describes a new hospital tent which seems likely to render valuable service in facilitating

the isolation of persons suffering from contagious diseases. The tent is oblong in shape, 16 ft. long by 14 ft. wide, and 13 ft. high to the ridge pole. It has perpendicular canvas walls, 3 ft. 6 in. high, and above these it slopes the remaining 9 ft. 6 in. It is supported by a ridge pole and three uprights, of which the middle one might be dispensed with, and encloses 1,850 cubic feet. At each end the canvas will roll back from the middle to the sides, and the walls also roll up under the flies, so that air may be allowed to sweep through the whole tent from end to end and from side to side. The 224 feet of floor space will allow comfortable standing room for four beds, which may be variously disposed, either one in each corner or parallel to each other, with the bed-heads against one of the side walls. By shifting the beds according to the direction of the wind, it would always be possible to have three sides of the tent completely open. It weighs about a hundred weight, and can be completely fixed by three men in fifteen minutes.

THERE is only one ground, says *Mechanics' Magazine*, upon which the supineness of our authorities in regard to the adequate adoption of the Harvey sea torpedo, and the construction of a suitable vessel from which to launch it, can be explained, and this is to be found in the work of Lieutenant-Commander Barnes (of the United States Navy) on "Submarine Warfare, Offensive and Defensive." In October 1865, the now celebrated Mr. Fulton blew up, off Deal, in the presence of Mr. Pitt, "a stout Danish brig, the *Dorothea*." Lieutenant-Commander Barnes records that when Fulton related the success of this experiment to Earl St. Vincent, the Earl reflected for some time, and then said: "Pitt was the greatest fool that ever existed to encourage a mode of war which they who commanded the seas did not want, and which, if successful, would deprive them of it." This is the only hypothesis upon which we can account for the comparative inaction of the Government in reference to the adoption of the sea torpedo. There is not a naval power in Europe which is not providing itself with this terrible weapon of war, and it is unhesitatingly admitted by the greatest naval and military authorities that our most ponderous iron-clad, with her thirty-five-ton gun and 700-pound shot, is absolutely at the mercy of a properly manipulated Harvey sea torpedo. Why, then, does not the Admiralty construct a suitable boat, fitted with the necessary appliances, and possessing the requisite speed for the proper working of this important weapon?

THE German Correspondent states that the newly-built screw advice-ships *Nautilus* and *Albatross* will next year join the German East Asiatic squadron, which will then consist of four vessels with forty-eight guns. The *Nautilus* and the *Albatross* have been specially constructed and fitted up for this branch of the service; but the experience of late years has led to the conviction that it will be well to modify the plan of constructing a fleet exclusively of corvettes for this station, as, in spite of the advantages arising from their superior speed, the comparative weakness of their artillery makes them much less formidable than the heavy or even the middle-sized frigates of the English or the French navy. The question is therefore now under consideration whether it may not be advisable to send one or two frigates of a middle size to the East Asiatic waters, which might then be accompanied by a number of swift advice-boats of light draught, but armed with heavy artillery, for the purpose of pursuing and destroying the pirate vessels which infest those seas. In the original plan the place of the proposed frigates was to be taken by iron-clad corvettes, and the *Hansa*, now in course of construction, was intended for this purpose. The unwieldy character of the iron-clads, however, renders them but ill-suited for seas exposed to sudden and violent storms, bounded by dangerous coasts, and full of hidden rocks, where, too, in case their machines were injured, or any other accident occurred, they could not be properly repaired. On the other hand, it does not seem advisable to diminish the small number of iron-clads which Germany at present has at her disposal by sending one to so distant a station.

THE *Mechanics' Magazine* republishes a report made in 1866, by a British military commissioner at Vienna, upon the self-explosive quality of gun-cotton. He cites the following cases: "In the year 1862 the first great explosion took place. The gun-cotton was stored in a magazine on the 'Semmeringer Haid,' a great plain, about an hour's distance from Vienna, devoted to artillery trials, etc. Upon this occasion 25 'zentners,' or about 3,075 lbs. of gun-cotton exploded and blew the magazine to pieces, but according to what I am told (curious to say), no person was hurt. There were, of course, the usual inquiries as to the how and wherefore of the explosion, but as no satisfactory conclusion was arrived at, it was put down to the self-explosiveness of the gun-cotton, and consequently the article was considered too dangerous for artillery usage, and ordered to be no longer thought of for that arm. Several clever, shrewd officers of the scientific branches of the service being still of opinion that its use might be made available for engineering purposes, such as mining, blasting, etc., its manufacture was still continued until the 25th September, 1865. On that day an explosion took place on the 'Steinfeld,' a vast plain not far from the town of Neustadt, about two hours' distance by railway from Vienna, where are located some powder magazines, in which gun-cotton was stored. I must here state that these magazines are very solidly constructed of bricks, and each surrounded by a deep trench. In one of these, 600 zentners, or 73,800 lbs. of gun-cotton exploded and blew the walls of the magazine into fragments. The sentry on duty was knocked down senseless, but, according to my informant, recovered after conveyance to the hospital. Inquiries were immediately instituted, which elicited no other cause for the explosion than the self-explosive nature of the gun-cotton. In consequence of this latter mishap, the manufacture of gun-cotton was discontinued by the Austrian Government. It has, however, since then largely and constantly experimented with this explosive."

THE *Eastern Budget* states that a series of tables showing the strength, cost, etc., of the various armies of

Europe has just been published at Vienna. We extract from these tables the following particulars, which show the actual force that each country has at its disposal in time of war: Russia—47 divisions of infantry and 10 of cavalry, 8 brigades of rifles and reserves, 149 regiments of Cossacks, 219 batteries of artillery and 50 of mitrailleuses, making altogether 862,000 men, 181,000 horses, and 2,084 guns. (This includes the troops in the Caucasus, Siberia, and Turkestan.) Germany—18 corps, including 37 divisions of infantry and 10 of cavalry, and 337 batteries of artillery. This force numbers 824,990 men, 95,724 horses, and 2,022 guns. Austria—13 corps, including 40 divisions of infantry and 5 of cavalry, and 205 batteries of artillery and mitrailleuses. The total force is 733,926 men and 58,126 horses, with 1,600 guns and 90 mitrailleuses. England—Army in process of reorganization. Turkey—6 corps of Nizams (regulars), 12 corps of redifs (reserves), and 131 batteries, making 253,289 men, 34,835 horses, and 732 guns. Italy—4 corps, with 40 infantry and 6 cavalry brigades, and 90 batteries; total force, 415,200 men, 12,868 horses, 720 guns. France—10 corps, with 32 infantry and 12 cavalry divisions, and 140 batteries; total force, 456,740 men, 16,995 horses, and 984 guns (including mitrailleuses). Belgium—145,000 men, 7,000 horses, and 152 guns. Holland—35,383 regulars, 85,000 militia, 5,200 horses, and 108 guns. Switzerland—100,000 men, 2,700 horses, and 278 guns. Roumania—106,000 men, 15,675 horses, 96 guns. Servia—107,000 men, 4,000 horses, 194 guns. Greece—125,000 men, 1000 horses, 48 guns. Sweden (including Norway)—61,604 men, 8500 horses, 222 guns. Denmark—31,916 men, 2,120 horses, 96 guns. Spain—144,938 men, 30,252 horses, 456 guns. Portugal—64,390 men, 6,320 horses, 96 guns. From the above data it appears that the total of the forces available for war purposes in Europe (taking the English disposable force at 470,779 men and 336 guns) is 5,164,300 men, 512,394 horses, 10,224 guns, and about 800 mitrailleuses.

## TORPEDOES.

IN an article on torpedoes the London *Mechanics' Magazine* says the torpedo proved to be the most efficient ally in the Confederates' defences against the Federal fleet, a fact which is fully borne out by a graphic remark in one of the despatches of the late Rear-Admiral Farragut, who not only had seen the disastrous results on ships under his command, but bore testimony to a more serious effect than even the destruction of the ship. He said: "Regular discipline will bring men to any amount of endurance, but there is a natural fear of hidden dangers, particularly when so awfully destructive of human life as when the torpedo is employed, which requires more than discipline to overcome."

Thus it is that not only our own, but all governments who have any seacoast or navigable rivers to protect, have of late years spent much money and time in rendering this mode of defence more efficient; and very ingenious, if not always effective, torpedoes have been constructed. But ingenuity should be exercised in securing the utmost simplicity combined with effectiveness. The serious and almost fatal mistake is that this *sine qua non* is seldom sufficiently realized; the consequence is, that we have inventions the most ingenious; and even in experiment the results seem all that could be wished. But this is not the practical way of testing these complicated inventions. For it is well known that the effect of water, and especially of sea water, on metal and mechanism is most damaging. This, however, is the very contingency which is too often lost sight of. The experiment is tried, the torpedo being immersed just prior to the trial, so that the chief danger it would have to face, the action of sea water, is lost sight of in the experiment. Much more satisfactory would it be, and the experiment far more conclusive, if this serious contingency was courted, by the torpedo being submerged much about the same time as would really elapse were an enemy expected. But to return more closely to the subject under consideration; we remarked that many ingenious, though not always effective, torpedoes have been designed, especially by the Southern States Government during the civil war. It is almost amusing to read of the marvellous plans then proposed to the Confederate War Department. In the words of a contemporary, these included torpedo twin boats, propelled by rockets; diving apparatus, by means of which torpedoes might be attached to the bottom of an enemy's ship; balloons that were to ascend, and, on arriving over the vessel to be attacked, were to drop some kind of torpedo on her deck; rotation torpedo-rockets to be discharged under water; submarine boats with torpedoes attached; in fine, innumerable and various plans, and yet but few really practicable ones. The sequel proved that the most destructive torpedoes used in the late American war were those which combined both simplicity of construction and cheapness.

The success or failure of a torpedo depends on the certainty with which the charge can be fired, and it is on this point that so much ingenuity has been expended. Yet we shall find that the most successful mode of determining the explosion is also the most simple, and devoid of everything that is in any degree complicated.

## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of 5/10 cents each.]

NEIL—JONES.—At Trinity Church, Columbus, O., September 5, 1871, JOHN B. NEIL, of Columbus, to MARION, daughter of Captain E. Penrose Jones, U. S. Army.

## DIED.

RODGERS.—At Point San José, Cal., August 27, 1871, MEXA P. beloved wife of Captain John I. Rodgers, Second Artillery.

DE CAMP.—At Saratoga Springs, N. Y., at 6 o'clock P. M. on Friday, September 8, Surgeon SAMUEL G. I. DE CAMP, U. S. Army. Surgeon De Camp entered the Army as assistant surgeon October 10, 1853, was promoted surgeon December 1, 1853, and retired from active service August 27, 1862. Surgeon De Camp was a prompt and energetic officer, faithful in the discharge of all his public and private duties, lived a life of purity and virtue, and died a Christian soldier.